



## State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

Whereas, protecting the health of Americans includes providing every citizen with access to safe and effective health care; and

Whereas, Infection Prevention and Control Professionals are devoted to patient and health care worker safety and are committed to reducing the risk and occurrence of healthcare-associated infections; and

Whereas, the prevention of healthcare-associated infections is instrumental in achieving this goal; and

Whereas, every year more than one billion Americans visit their doctors' offices, emergency rooms, and hospital outpatient departments, and over 37 million are admitted to hospitals, with many undergoing medical procedures that have a risk of infectious complications; and

Whereas, healthcare-associated infections increase morbidity and mortality and add a significant financial burden to the cost of health care; and

Whereas, The Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC), representing more than 12,000 Infection Prevention and Control Professionals, sponsors International Infection Prevention Week with this year's theme being "Infection Prevention is Everyone's Business";

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DONALD L. CARCIERI, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM,

**October 18 - 24, 2009**

as

### International Infection Prevention Week

in the State of Rhode Island and encourage all of its health care providers in the many health care facilities of Rhode Island to observe this week with the appropriate programs and activities and to renew their efforts to prevent healthcare-associated infections, thereby reducing the burden of human suffering and disease.

In recognition whereof, I have hereby set my hand and caused the Seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations to be hereunto affixed this 18<sup>th</sup> day of October 2009.



  
Donald L. Carcieri  
Governor

  
A. Ralph Mollis  
Secretary of State