

State of



Connecticut

By Her Excellency M. Jodi Rell, Governor: an

# Official Statement

WHEREAS, Americans are exhibiting increased social, cultural and economic ties to the global community, which presents new challenges as we seek to communicate with and understand nations that have different languages and cultural backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, studying other languages has been shown to contribute to increased cognitive skills, academic performance and a greater understanding of others by providing life-long learning opportunities for people beyond school age; and

WHEREAS, proficiency in several languages enhances careers and provides employers with a workforce with the necessary skills in an international marketplace; and

WHEREAS, developing skills in a new language fosters personal and intellectual growth in students while contributing to economic prosperity, national security and world stability; and

WHEREAS, language educators are working cooperatively to promote the benefits of teaching different languages to students; parents; business, industry, health and social service leaders; and policy makers throughout the nation; and

WHEREAS, language educators are urging the public to recognize the value of delivering a better education to our students, and expanding the cultural and literary horizons for adult citizens; and

WHEREAS, language education in the 21st century includes a commitment to the study of world languages beginning in the primary grades to enable students to develop the levels of proficiency needed to effectively communicate with people from other cultures, whether at home or abroad; now

THEREFORE, I, M. JODI RELL, Governor of the State of Connecticut, do hereby declare 2005 as

**THE YEAR OF LANGUAGES  
in the State of Connecticut.**



*M. Jodi Rell*  
Governor