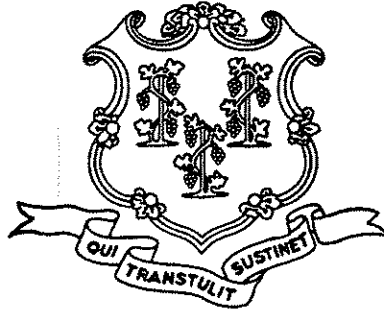


State of



Connecticut

By Her Excellency M. Jodi Rell, Governor: an

## Official Statement

WHEREAS, talent and innovation have long been critical to Connecticut's prosperity and remain integral to advancing the state's competitive position and economic growth in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, given the ever-increasing levels of talent and innovation required to compete in the global, knowledge-based economy; and

WHEREAS, economic growth must be balanced with the protection of our environment and natural resources, both of which can be achieved through the advancement and implementation of "green" or environmentally sound technologies, techniques, and practices, including the development of renewable and sustainable energies; and

WHEREAS, the state's proven talent, innovation and entrepreneurship can and should be leveraged to usher in an environmentally sustainable future for all, while strengthening Connecticut's competitive advantage and economic success in the emerging green economy and in green job creation; and

WHEREAS, for both students and workers, 21<sup>st</sup> century talent is defined in terms of achievement and mastery of core subjects, including science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM), as well as information and communication skills, critical thinking and problem-solving skills, interpersonal skills, and proficiency with languages; and

WHEREAS, Connecticut's students represent the future of the State, and their ability to successfully compete in a technology- and innovation-driven world while applying green principles will be key, not only to their own success, but to the success of the state and the nation; and

WHEREAS, providing broad opportunities for students to experience the wonder and promise of the creative processes that lead to innovation, discovery, and invention is an essential feature of a 21<sup>st</sup> century teaching and learning environment; and

WHEREAS, some of the programs that provide Connecticut students with opportunities to learn and apply essential 21<sup>st</sup> century skills and competencies critical to success in an increasingly green technology-driven world include Connecticut Career Choices, Connecticut Pre-Engineering Program, Connecticut Project Lead The Way, Connecticut Technology Student Association, and Connecticut Community Colleges' College of Technology Regional Center for Next Generation Manufacturing; now

THEREFORE, I, M. Jodi Rell, Governor of the State of Connecticut, do hereby officially proclaim May 9, 2009, as

### CONNECTICUT STUDENT INNOVATORS' DAY

in the State of Connecticut.



*M. Jodi Rell*  
Governor