

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



Governor's Office

PROCLAMATION

DIWALI MONTH

October 15-November 15, 2008

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania is home to 57,000 residents who trace their roots to India and countries in South Asia; and

WHEREAS, many of these residents celebrate Diwali, the Festival of Lights, which signifies the triumph of good over evil and a successful harvest; and

WHEREAS, Asian Indian and South Asian American communities represent a vital dimension of our Commonwealth's diverse ethnic and social tradition; and

WHEREAS, their innumerable contributions of diverse languages, cultures and religious beliefs have enriched our society throughout the history of our state; and

WHEREAS, through their love of family, community, and hard work, they have helped to uphold the founding principles of our Commonwealth for generations; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania, through the cooperation of representatives from all of the major Asian American communities, continues to address the needs and concerns of these communities and remains committed to a proactive stance that seeks solutions to problems such as prejudice, discrimination, and violence.

THEREFORE, In recognition of the many contributions and achievements of our Commonwealth's Indian and Southeast Asian Americans, I, Edward G. Rendell, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim October 15-November 15, 2008 as DIWALI MONTH in Pennsylvania.



GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, on this fifteenth day of October in the Year of our Lord two thousand and eight, and of the Commonwealth the two hundred and thirty-third.

Edward G. Rendell

EDWARD G. RENDELL
Governor