WHEREAS, the American College of Surgeons (ACS) is dedicated to improving the care of the surgical patient and to safeguarding standards of care in an optimal and ethical practice environment; and,

WHEREAS, the State of Illinois has been the home of the American College of Surgeons since its founding nearly 100 years ago in 1913 by surgeons in the United States and Canada; and,

WHEREAS, ACS continues its work into the 21st century by "Inspiring Quality" through its innovative quality improvement programs in hospitals, by its desire and commitment to work together with health care leaders around the nation, and its objective to continue to have a tremendous impact on improving surgical care and leading our health care system in the right direction; and,

WHEREAS, as part of American College of Surgeons Awareness Days, ACS launches its centennial celebration to mark its impact on surgical innovation and progress for the past 100 years during its 2012 Annual Clinical Congress in Chicago, September 30-October 4; and,

WHEREAS, the 2012 ACS Clinical Congress brings one of the largest and most prestigious international surgical education conferences in the world to the great State of Illinois; and,

THEREFORE I, Pat Quinn, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim September 30-October 4, 2012, to be AMERICAN COLLEGE OF SURGEONS DAYS in Illinois, and encourage all Illinoisans to be aware of how the American College of Surgeons’ achievements have significantly influenced the course of surgery in America and around the world, and have established it as an important advocate for all surgical patients.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, in the City of Springfield, this SEVENTEENTH day of MAY, in the Year of Our Lord two thousand and TWELVE, and of the State of Illinois the one hundred and NINETY-FOURTH