



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations  
GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

**Bells of Peace: A World War I Remembrance**

**WHEREAS**, in a railway car in a forest near Compiègne, Oise, France, on November 11, 1918, the signing of the Armistice marked the Allied nations' defeat of the Central Powers and an end to the fighting of the Great War on land, sea, and air; and

**WHEREAS**, over 53,634 Rhode Islanders enlisted in the service by June 1917; and

**WHEREAS**, 702 Rhode Islanders from all services died in the service of our great nation during this conflict; and

**WHEREAS**, Rhode Islanders' sacrifices and service helped secure freedom and peace for the citizens of our nation and the world; and

**WHEREAS**, the United States World War One Centennial Commission has issued a proclamation calling on the citizens of the United States to participate in the Bells of Peace: A World War I Remembrance, in a national tolling of bells to honor those who served in the World War I; and

**WHEREAS**, the Rhode Island World War One Centennial Commission fully supports the 100th commemoration of Armistice Day and Rhode Island's participating in the Bells of Peace program with an emphasis on recognizing those Rhode Islanders who made the supreme sacrifice and those who returned home physically and/or mentally wounded and disabled; and

**WHEREAS**, the tolling of bells is a traditional expression of honor and remembrance;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Gina M. Raimondo**, Governor of the State of Rhode Island, do hereby proclaim November 11, 2018 as a day to specially recognize those who served in the Great War, and call on citizens throughout the State of Rhode Island to toll bells 21 times, with a five-second interval between tolls, beginning at 11:00 a.m. on November 11, 2018 in remembrance of those men and women who served and died in World War I.



Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this 1 day of November, 2018

**Gina M. Raimondo**  
Governor

**Nellie M. Gorbea**  
Secretary of State