



By His Excellency Ned Lamont, Governor: an

Official Statement

*W*HEREAS, religious freedom is a fundamental American and human right, a cornerstone of democracy, a right for all rather than a privilege for few, and a fundamental right that applies to people of all and of no religious affiliations or beliefs; and

*W*HEREAS, these principles are foundational and remain essential to the health and future of our democracy, and the government may not favor one religion over another, or over non-religion, without fatally undermining religious freedom; and

*W*HEREAS, these principles should guide and inform judicial decisions, legislation, and public policymaking at all levels of government; and

*W*HEREAS, in 1992, Congress designated January 16th as Religious Freedom Day – to celebrate the enactment of the Virginia Statute for Religious Freedom in 1786; now

*T*HEREFORE, I, Ned Lamont, Governor of the State of Connecticut, do hereby officially proclaim January 16th, 2022 as

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM DAY

in the State of Connecticut.



Ned Lamont

GOVERNOR