



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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BRUCE RAUNER
GOVERNOR

June 14, 2018

The Japan America Society of Chicago
One North LaSalle Street, Suite 2475
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Greetings:

As Governor of the State of Illinois, I am delighted to welcome everyone to the Japan America Society of Chicago's 88th Anniversary Celebratory Dinner.

Tonight's celebration highlights the strong friendship between the people of Illinois and Japan. The State of Illinois commends the Japan America Society of Chicago for its role in fostering understanding between our two cultures and cultivating personal friendship between our two people. I applaud the steadfast commitment and dedication of the Japan America Society of Chicago for showcasing the robust economic, political, business and cultural partnership. In the global arena, the Japan-US relationship is one of the most important bilateral relationships in the world. The people of Illinois are very proud of our strong relationship with Japan and are committed to strengthening a two-way economic partnership and increasing more trade and investment between our two nations. Most importantly the State of Illinois will continue to strengthen its friendship with Japan that transcends business, academic, and culture.

This is also an exciting year across the State of Illinois, as we commemorate Illinois' 200th birthday in 2018. During the yearlong Bicentennial celebration, we pay tribute to the people, places, and things that are born, built, and grown here every single day. The Japan America Society of Chicago's leadership and service to the community was honored at our Illinois Bicentennial Asian American & Pacific Islander Heritage Month Celebration. My heartiest congratulations go out again to all the Board of Directors, staff, supporters, and volunteers on this milestone achievement. Together, we can inspire pride in Illinois and show the world what makes this state so great – and that includes you!

On behalf of the people of Illinois, I offer my best wishes for your continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bruce Rauner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

Bruce Rauner
Governor, State of Illinois