



By His Excellency Ned Lamont, Governor: an
Official Statement

*W*HEREAS, it is through the ethical, unbiased, and competent conduct of business by public servants and professionals in every occupation, operating within the laws of our State and Nation, treating in good faith with all in association and commerce, and respecting the innate worth of all people regardless of their position or influence, that our society maintains its compact of mutual trust that enables private industry, division of labor, trade, finance, government, and all other components of modern life to function; and

*W*HEREAS, corruption and negligence, when they have taken hold through apathy or impunity, threaten the breakdown of these functions no matter the resources or monetary value they are assigned, often with tragic cost to the people whose needs these functions were by design meant to serve, and once institutionalized, this corruption and negligence proves extremely difficult to cure by any means of internal reform or outside intervention; and

*W*HEREAS, the efforts of trained, specialized, and objective ombuds dedicated to putting the innate worth of people before other considerations, ensuring that public and private institutions conduct their business and fulfill their societal roles lawfully and appropriately, grounding this work on the fundamental principles of fairness, equity, respect, and fair process, and holding the individuals who make up these institutions accountable for their actions, that societies can best maintain high ethical and professional standards every day on a continuing, self-renewing basis over the course of generations; and

*W*HEREAS, ombuds given the knowledge and wherewithal to advance the societal goal of an institution, provided with the mandate to advocate for people and address problems, and empowered to see necessary reforms through to their completion, serve as a vital check and balance in any organization, and contribute to the long-term health of society; and

*W*HEREAS, the professional development of ombuds, the expansion of their use in institutions, and the protection of their role putting people first, ought to be encouraged across the State in the pursuit of excellence and to sustain the progress our society has already made; now

*T*HEREFORE, I, Ned Lamont, Governor of the State of Connecticut, do hereby officially proclaim October 14, 2021 to be

OMBUDS DAY
in the State of Connecticut.



Ned Lamont

GOVERNOR