WHEREAS, the bald eagle was designated as the national emblem of the United States on June 20, 1782 by our country's Founding Fathers at the Second Continental Congress; and

WHEREAS, the bald eagle is unique to North America and represents American values and attributes such as freedom, courage, strength, spirit, justice, quality, and excellence; and

WHEREAS, the bald eagle is the central image used in the Great Seal of the United States and in the insignia of many branches of federal government, stamps, and currency; and

WHEREAS, the imagery and symbolism associated with the bald eagle have played a significant role in American beliefs, traditions, art, music, literature, and culture; and

WHEREAS, the bald eagle was federally classified as an "endangered species" in the lower 48 states under the Endangered Species Act in 1973, and was upgraded to a less imperiled "threatened" status in 1995; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of the Interior and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service removed the bald eagle from Endangered Species Act protection in 2007; and

WHEREAS, the recovery of our bald eagle population was largely accomplished due to the dedicated efforts of numerous individuals, agencies, and organizations; now

THEREFORE, I, Ned Lamont, Governor of the State of Connecticut, do hereby proclaim June 20, 2019 as

AMERICAN EAGLE DAY
in the State of Connecticut.

Ned Lamont
GOVERNOR