**State/City/Town of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

WHEREAS, Founded by Guru Nanak in 1469, Sikhism is 5th Largest Independent Ethnic Religion, with over 50 Million Followers World Wide known as “Sikhs”; and

WHEREAS,Originally from the Punjab Region of South Asia,Sikhs have been living in the United States Over 125 years,and have made many valuable contributions to the culture and economy of the U.S;and

WHEREAS,State of\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with over \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Gurudwara (Sikh Place of Worship) in our state,is proud to celebrate the accomplishment and rich cultural heritage of our Sikh Community Members;and

WHEREAS, March 14th Is the start of the month of “Chet”, the first in the “Mool Nanakshahi Sikh Calendar”; and

WHEREAS, March 14th 2021 will mark the **553nd** New year for Sikh Nation according to Sikh calendar that started with the birth of Guru Nanak who taught and embodied the principles of equality,love,and Social Justice; now

Therefore, I ,Ned Lamont,Governor of the State of Connecticut, do herby officially proclaim March 14,2021 as the start of the

 **SIKH NEW YEAR**

and wish all Sikhs throughout Connecticut

A happy and healthy new year.