

STATE OF MINNESOTA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

A Proclamation for "Bill of Rights Day"

WHEREAS, the preservation of our freedom depends upon the maintenance of our civil liberties, as they were established in our most time-honored document, the BILL of Rights of the Constitution of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, it is at all times imperative that a free people should be vigilant to preserve their liberty; it is especially important to be ever vigilant during times of stress and conflict when factors of fear, prejudice and emotion increase the threats to our freedom; and

WHEREAS, it is essential that all Americans understand that the protection of our life, liberty and property from deprivation except by due process of law -- fair trial and fair hearing -- is guaranteed by our Bill of Rights; that our freedom of religion and freedom of expression thus guaranteed are essential factors most responsible for the greatness of our nation and the happiness of our people; and

WHEREAS, December 15, marks the anniversary of the adoption of the Bill of Rights as the first ten amendments to the Constitution, and is, therefore, a fitting time for Americans to give especial attention to the maintenance of the rights and freedom that are so great a part of our heritage;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Orville L. Freeman, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do proclaim December 15, 1955, as

"BILL OF RIGHTS DAY"

and urge all citizens in our homes, educational institutions, civic, religious, fraternal, and other organizations, to study the meaning of our Bill of Rights and the importance of the principles therein stated to our future; and to on that day, and every day, do whatever they can to further the principles of equality and freedom which are the core of our national strength and faith.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this fifteenth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and fifty-five and of the State, the ninety-eighth.

ATTEST:

Joseph L. Donovan
JOSEPH L. DONOVAN
SECRETARY OF STATE

Orville L. Freeman
GOVERNOR

Joseph L. Donovan
Secretary of State

12785