

STATE OF MINNESOTA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

A Proclamation for "Equal Opportunity Day"

WHEREAS, our government was founded on the principle that "all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness;" and

WHEREAS, November 19, 1956 will mark the 93rd anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's memorable Gettysburg Address in which he eloquently stated the principles upon which this country had then, as now, to stand or fall; and

WHEREAS, we in Minnesota in 1955 enacted a Fair Employment Practices Commission Act, designed to forward the program of equal opportunity in business life for all Minnesota's citizens; and

WHEREAS, on November 19, 1956 the National Urban League will focus attention on programs all over the United States designed to insure fair and equal treatment to all citizens, regardless of race, color, religion or national origin;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Orville L. Freeman, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Monday, November 19, 1956 as

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY DAY IN MINNESOTA

and urge all citizens to cooperate in this first annual celebration of this important movement. It is only through strengthening these fundamental principles of our way of life that we can withstand those who would change and destroy it.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capital this fourteenth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and fifty-six and of the state, the ninety-ninth.

ATTEST:

Orville L. Freeman
GOVERNOR

Joseph R. Brennan
SECRETARY OF STATE

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