

STATE OF MINNESOTA

EXECUTIVE ORDER

- WHEREAS, certain world events have demonstrated the longing which is common to all men for freedom from tyranny and oppression and the preservation of their human rights which are man's birthright; and
- WHEREAS, we in this country, since the adoption of our Constitution and the Bill of Rights, have been guaranteed the free exercise of the right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness, with the blessings which flow therefrom; and
- WHEREAS, notwithstanding the above, there still exist in this country instances of the deprivation of man's human rights through inequality of opportunity, denial of the right of citizenship and the privileges and occasional suppression of free expression and conscience; and
- WHEREAS, we can look with compassion and sympathy upon the oppressed peoples of other nations, who struggle against tyrannical rule in a seemingly futile attempt to wrench their freedom from a dictator's hands and we can give thanks that we live in a country which is free, still we realize the ever present need to preserve and guard the exercise of our human rights against encroachment through hysteria, emotionalism or militarism; and
- WHEREAS, on December 10, 1948, the United Nations adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and five years later the United Nations and the President of the United States have proclaimed December 10, 1953 as HUMAN RIGHTS DAY to focus the attention of the American people on the precious heritage we sometimes take so much for granted;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Orville L. Freeman, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the day of December 10, 1956 and the week following, as

HUMAN RIGHTS DAY AND HUMAN RIGHTS WEEK

In Minnesota and urge all her citizens in every community throughout the state to commemorate this day by a serious re-examination of the guiding principles in our Constitution and Bill of Rights and a critical appraisal of how these rights are enjoyed in their own communities by all men, with recognition to the aim of securing their enjoyment by all members of the human household, under God.

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 sixth day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and fifty-six and of the state, the ninety-sixth.

ATTEST:

Orville L. Freeman
GOVERNOR

Jacob L. Johnson
COMMISSIONER OF STATE

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FILED
DEC 6 - 1956

Joseph L. Johnson
Secretary of State

13123