

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FILED
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Joseph L. Donovan
Secretary of State

P R O C L A M A T I O N

- WHEREAS, the Republic of Latvia after declaring its Independence on November 18, 1918 had prospered as a free nation in a truly democratic spirit for 22 years; and
- WHEREAS, the Soviet Union abruptly and without provocation terminated the independence of Latvia by military invasion on June 17, 1940; and
- WHEREAS, the Latvian people and their neighbors, the Estonians and Lithuanians, have been subjected to Soviet rule and the process of russification for over two decades; and
- WHEREAS, the United States of America has never recognized the forced annexation of Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania by the Soviet Union; and
- WHEREAS, the American people have shown a genuine support for the just aspirations of Latvians, Estonians and Lithuanians in their quest to reestablish Freedom and Independence in their homelands;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Harold LeVander, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby designate Monday, November 18, 1968 as

LATVIA'S SOLIDARITY DAY

and urge the citizens of Minnesota to observe this day with appropriate interest and activities, to study the plight of the Latvian people and the Latvian nation, and to recommit themselves to the support and principles of our country's policies for the ultimate reestablishment of Latvia's independence.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this first day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and sixty-eight, and of the State, the one hundred eleventh.

Harold LeVander
GOVERNOR

Joseph L. Donovan
SECRETARY OF STATE

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