



# Proclamation

WHEREAS: George Mason, Virginia farmer-lawyer, helped write the Constitution of the United States, but refused to sign it in 1787 because it failed to guarantee our individual liberties; and

WHEREAS: this crucial decision to oppose the Constitution set in motion the demand for freedom-guarding amendments which eventually forced the adoption of the Bill of Rights on December 15, 1791; and

WHEREAS: it was George Mason, the Squire of Gunston Hall, who remained steadfast at high personal cost to define and popularize the Bill of Rights issue; and

WHEREAS: the Bill of Rights, first articulated in the Virginia Declaration of Rights, drafted in 1776 by George Mason, contains most of the "constitutional liberties" Americans cherish;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Wendell R. Anderson, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Monday, December 15, 1975 to be

## BILL OF RIGHTS DAY

in Minnesota, an annual observance sponsored by the National Society of Colonial Dames.

FURTHERMORE, it is particularly appropriate, as we celebrate our Nation's Bicentennial, to once again express our thanks to George Mason, who kindled the demand for a guarantee of our basic freedoms.

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 November in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred seventy-five and of the State the one hundred seventeenth.

*Wendell R. Anderson*

GOVERNOR

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FILED  
NOV 6 - 1975

*Jean Anderson Grove*  
Secretary of State

*Jean Anderson Grove*  
SECRETARY OF STATE

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