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WHEREAS: down through the years, the American merchant marine continued to serve our economic

aspirations and to assist our military forces in times of emergency; and

WHEREAS: today, when the United States is the world leader in trade and military power, the

dual roles of our merchant marine remain vital to the national interests; and

WHEREAS: under the Merchant Marine Act of 1970, new generations of highly advanced and efficient ships are being introduced into our merchant fleet to reinforce America's presence in

the world's shipping lanes and to insure that our maritine capacities remain equal to

their challenges; and

WHEREAS: to promote public awareness of our maritime heritage, the Congress in 1933 designated

the anniversary of the first transatlantic voyage by a steamship, the Savannah, on

May 22, 1819, as National Maritime Day;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rudy Perpich, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim May 22, 1977 to be

MARITIME DAY

in Minnesota, and urge the people to honor our American Merchant Marine by displaying the flag of the United States at their homes and other suitable places.

> 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 twenty-sixth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousan nine hundred seventy-seven and of the Sin the one hundred nineteenth.

STATE OF MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF STATE FILED

APR 2 б 1977

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