

WHEREAS: O. M. (Mike) Ousdigian was born in Armenia of Armenian parentage, and was subjected to great hardships and suffering in slavery as a youth; and

WHEREAS: Mike arrived in the United States in March, 1921, as an immigrant and subsequently realized his dream of becoming an American citizen on December 15, 1926, and graduated with honors from the University of Pennsylvania in 1931; and

WHEREAS: Mike served as Secretary of the Minnesota Public Employee Retirement Association from May 1, 1938 through June 30, 1979; and

WHEREAS: Mike has, as an American citizen, distinguished himself as a public speaker, receiving numerous honors and awards for his unique appreciation and understanding of the meaning of America; and

WHEREAS: The intensity of the diverse experiences that shaped Mike's life, from the suffering he endured as an enslaved youth, mistreated and physically broken, to those that brought him to this country have made him a proud, true American, a man of heart and feeling; and

WHEREAS: Mike truly is a living testimony to the strength and stamina of the human spirit, to the individual, to overcome adversity and hardship, to not only survive, but to achieve freedom and peace in service to his fellow man;

NOW, THEREFORE, WE, Albert H. Quie and Lou Wangberg, Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim October 9, 1979 to be

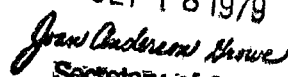
O. M. (MIKE) OUSDIGIAN DAY


in Minnesota, and urge all citizens to acknowledge and emulate his true American spirit.


IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have hereunto set our hands and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this eighteenth day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred seventy-nine and of the State the one hundred twenty-second.

  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
FILED  
SEP 18 1979

  
Secretary of State

  
SECRETARY OF STATE

  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR