

Proclamation

WHEREAS: The final act of the Helsinki Accords of 1975 commits the signatory nations "to encourage the study of foreign languages and civilizations as an important means of expanding communication among peoples"; and

WHEREAS: The President's Commission on Foreign Language and International Studies has called for "a major, sustained national effort to raise American competence in foreign languages to levels commensurate with our nation's needs"; and

WHEREAS: The study of languages and cultures is a humanistic pursuit that also provides important adjunct career skills; and

WHEREAS: Our state is an internationally recognized center of trade, tourism, industry, technology, and education; and

WHEREAS: Minnesota is a state that has been settled by and continues to attract persons whose native language is not English; and

WHEREAS: The contributions of these many ethnic and cultural groups continue to enrich the fabric of Minnesota life; and

WHEREAS: The last week of March has been designated as National Foreign Language Week, with March 28, 1980, being celebrated as National Foreign Language Day;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Albert H. Quie, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the week of March 23 through March 29, 1980, to be

LANGUAGES AND CULTURES WEEK

in Minnesota, and have asked Lieutenant Governor Lou Wangberg to prepare this proclamation for my signature and disseminate the same. I further urge that all local and state educational agencies and the citizenry at large consider how our schools might best serve our students in the areas of language and international studies.

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 eleventh day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred eighty, and of the State the one hundred twenty-second.

GOVERNOR

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