

## STATE of MINNESOTA

Frociamation

WHEREAS: The concept of democracy by which the supreme power to govern is vested in the people, was

developed by the ancient Greeks; and

WHEREAS: The Founding Fathers of the United States drew heavily upon the political experience and

philosophies of ancient Greece when forming our representative democracy; and

WHEREAS: Greek soldiers were with the United States Marines on the shores of Tripoli in the military

operations memorialized in the Marines' Hymn, the United States Marine Corps' official song; and

WHEREAS: Many Americans fought alongside the Greeks in their fight for independence, while stirring

speeches by President James Monroe and Congressman Daniel Webster led the United States Congress to send funds and supplies to aid the Greeks in their struggle for freedom; and

WHEREAS: Greece is one of only three nations in the world beyond the former British Empire to ally with the

United States in every major international conflict in the twentieth century, including World War

I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Desert Storm, and the conflict in the Balkans; and

WHEREAS: Greece played a major role in World War II in the struggle to protect freedom and democracy,

through bravery shown in the Battle of Crete and in Greece, presenting the Axis with its first

major setback; and

WHEREAS: The Government of Greece has declared its solidarity with the American people and has pledged to

back efforts to combat and eradicate terrorism in the aftermath of terrorist attacks in the United

States of America; and

WHEREAS: The American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association (AHEPA), with four chapters in

Minnesota, has contributed to strengthening the fabric of America since 1922 through community

services and volunteerism; and

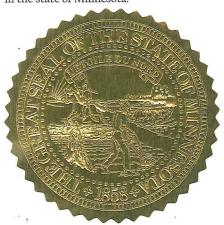
WHEREAS: Friday, March 25, 2016, marks the 195<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginning of the revolution, which freed

the Greek people from the Ottoman Empire.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Friday, March 25, 2016, as:

## GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY

in the state of Minnesota.



reve v mm

SECRETARY OF STATE

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 24<sup>th</sup> day of February.

GOVERNOR 4