



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: The Star-Spangled Banner was adopted as the National Anthem of the United States in 1931 by an Act of Congress; and
- WHEREAS: A recent Harris Interactive Survey discovered that of men and women 18 years of age and older, 61 percent of those surveyed did not know all the lyrics of the first stanza of "The Star-Spangled Banner." Of those who did, 58 percent had received at least five years of music education while growing up. An ABC News poll revealed that more than one in three Americans (38 percent) do not know the official name of the Nation Anthem is "The Star-Spangled Banner," less than 35 percent of American teens can name Francis Scott Key as the composer of the National Anthem, and as few as 15 percent of American youth can sing the words to the anthem from memory; and
- WHEREAS: School music education ensures preservation of the musical traditions and historical legacies of the United States; and
- WHEREAS: The study of music provides a competitive edge for successful educational reform, engages students in individual and group activity, develops creativity, problem-solving, and critical and evaluative skills; and
- WHEREAS: The National Association of Music Education (MENC) and the Minnesota Music Educators Association have taken a lead role in promoting the National Anthem through "The National Anthem Project" to help remedy this concern. The First Lady of the United States, Laura Bush, has agreed to serve as the Honorary Chairperson of "The National Anthem Project" and is lending her support and visibility to this effort; and
- WHEREAS: The State of Minnesota is concerned with maintaining and improving school music programs for all students and teaching the importance of the historical events that created our great nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM PAWLENTY, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Saturday, November 11, 2006, as:

NATIONAL ANTHEM PROJECT DAY

in the State of Minnesota.



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 26th day of October in the year of our Lord two thousand and six, and of the State the one hundred forty-eighth.


GOVERNOR


SECRETARY OF STATE

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