



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS: Recognizing a need to support funeral honors for deceased veterans, veterans in Minnesota formed the Memorial Rifle Squad at Fort Snelling National Cemetery on June 19, 1979; and

WHEREAS: The Fort Snelling Memorial Rifle Squad today fields a squad consisting of up to 25 members each day of the week for duty in support of all requested funeral honors services; and

WHEREAS: All members past and present of the Memorial Rifle Squad are honorably discharged veterans of the United States Armed Forces, and members of a Veteran Service Organization in good standing; and

WHEREAS: The Fort Snelling Memorial Rifle Squad provides a funeral honors ceremony consisting of three rifle volleys, a flag detail featuring the United States, Minnesota, and service branch flags, the playing of "taps" by a bugler, and the presentation of a folded American flag to the veteran's family; and

WHEREAS: The Fort Snelling Memorial Rifle Squad performs every honors ceremony at no cost to the veteran's family or the United States Government, and has never missed a requested funeral honors ceremony since its creation for any reason; and

WHEREAS: The Fort Snelling Memorial Rifle Squad is the first and oldest continuously serving all-volunteer rifle squad in any U.S. National Cemetery; and

WHEREAS: On June 1, 2018, the Memorial Rifle Squad at Fort Snelling National Cemetery performed its 75,000th honors service.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Friday, June 1, 2018, as:

MEMORIAL RIFLE SQUAD AT FORT SNELLING NATIONAL CEMETERY 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 1st day of June.


GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE