



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation on January 1, 1863, during the Civil War; and
- WHEREAS: The Emancipation Proclamation forever freed all slaves in those parts of ten states still in rebellion against the government of the United States, and ordered the military to protect their freedom; and
- WHEREAS: The Emancipation Proclamation marked the beginning of the end of slavery in the United States, and resulted in the immediate freeing of as many as 50,000 people from slavery; and
- WHEREAS: The Emancipation Proclamation led to the freeing of 3.1 million of the 4 million people then enslaved in the United States; and
- WHEREAS: As a war measure, the Emancipation Proclamation strengthened the position of the Union, decreased the likelihood of European support for the Confederacy, and invited African American men to join the Union war effort, resulting in the enlistment of 200,000 former slaves and free African Americans by the war's end; and
- WHEREAS: The Emancipation Proclamation transformed the Civil War into a war for freedom, adding moral force to the Union cause and recognizing the actions of African Americans who fought for their own freedom and equality throughout the war; and
- WHEREAS: Slavery was made illegal in the United States by the Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution, ratified in December 1865; and
- WHEREAS: January 1, 2013, marks the 150th Anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim January 1, 2013, as:

EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION REMEMBRANCE DAY

in the State of Minnesota, and encourage Minnesotans to recognize the significance of this milestone in the history of freedom and civil rights.



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 19th day of December.

Handwritten signature of Mark Dayton in black ink.

GOVERNOR

Handwritten signature of Mark Ritchie in black ink.

SECRETARY OF STATE