



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS: Brave citizens have answered the call to service at sea from the proposition of a national naval militia by Thomas Jefferson in 1805, through the Civil War, to the Spanish-American War in which 4,215 militia men supported the Navy; and

WHEREAS: In 1915, Congress officially established the Federal Navy Reserve, and

WHEREAS: For the last 100 years, Navy Reserve Sailors have participated in every conflict, with hundreds of thousands serving in World War I and II, Korea, Vietnam, the first Gulf War, Bosnia and Kosovo, and the Global War on Terrorism; and

WHEREAS: Navy Reserve Sailors are patriots who balance the demands of family, community, civilian employment, and military readiness. As service members hailed from communities in every state; Navy Reserve Sailors represent the interests of our nation and embody the spirit of the American ideal; and

WHEREAS: The State of Minnesota has 1,139 actively serving Navy Reserve Sailors and Marines operating out of the Navy Operational Support Center in Minneapolis; and

WHEREAS: The Navy Reserve in Minnesota has a long and distinguished history of service, including sailors who drilled and served aboard the USS Paducah in Duluth; and

WHEREAS: That history was exemplified by sailors from Saint Paul who, while serving aboard the USS Ward on December 7, 1941, and patrolling off the entrance to Pearl Harbor, used the #3 naval gun, now memorialized on the Minnesota Capitol Mall, to fire the first shot of World War II.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, March 3, 2015, as:

NAVY RESERVE DAY

in the State of Minnesota, saluting the valuable contributions of Navy Reserve sailors from 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 of February.


GOVERNOR


SECRETARY OF STATE