



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: July 1-3, 2013, marks the sesquicentennial of the Battle of Gettysburg of the American Civil War; and
- WHEREAS: Gettysburg was the battle with the largest number of casualties during the Civil War and was the turning point of the Eastern Campaign; and
- WHEREAS: In testament thereof, the United States Congress established the battlefield at Gettysburg as a National Military Park in 1895; and
- WHEREAS: The state of Minnesota was represented during the Battle of Gettysburg by the 1st and 2nd Companies of Minnesota Sharpshooters and the 1st Minnesota Infantry Regiment, commanded by Colonel William J Colvill, who led an assault late on July 2nd, which repelled the Confederate advance on Cemetery Ridge, a decisive moment of the Battle; and
- WHEREAS: The 1st Minnesota Infantry sustained an extremely high number of casualties, particularly on July 2, 1863, in preserving a key defensive position in the Union line during the Battle of Gettysburg; these casualties were in excess of eighty percent, representing one of the highest regimental casualty rates for any battle in the war; and
- WHEREAS: On July 2, 1897, in recognition of the service of these brave soldiers, the state of Minnesota erected a memorial on the grounds of Gettysburg Military Park; and
- WHEREAS: The Honorable David M. Clough, Governor of the State of Minnesota, dedicated the state's memorial on July 2, 1897, as tribute to the courage and service of these soldiers and the sacrifices made by the families and communities throughout the state; and
- WHEREAS: On July 2, 2013, and July 3, 2013, a delegation from Minnesota will honor the memory of Minnesotans involved in the Battle of Gettysburg, and rededicate and lay a wreath at the Minnesota memorials, while Minnesotans across the state remember the sacrifices made to preserve the Union.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, July 2, 2013, as:

MINNESOTA COURAGE AT GETTYSBURG, RECOGNITION 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 25th day of June.


GOVERNOR


SECRETARY OF STATE