

A PROCLAMATION

(Emblem Day)

WHEREAS, on June 20, 1782, as the result of six years of study and investigation, The bald Eagle, commonly known as the American Eagle, was selected by the Continental Congress as the official emblem of the United States, and

WHEREAS, The bald Eagle symbolized the strength, freedom and hardihood of America and its democratic institutions, and

WHEREAS, The Fraternal Order of Eagles has marked this day for national observance, and its hundreds of Aeries throughout the United States, including the State of South Carolina, are commemorating the choice of the eagle as our national emblem with appropriate historical, educational and patriotic ceremonies on June 20, or during the week of June 20, thereby preserving the history and traditions of our national emblem, considered by heraldic experts to be the most artistic and beautiful national seal in the world;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, J. Strom Thurmond, Governor of the State of South Carolina, do call upon all officials and citizens to display the flag of the United States on such day, to cooperate in making this significant date in American history one of tribute to our American heritage and traditions and to renew and rededicate our faith therein, to the fulfillment of our great destiny of justice and freedom.

Given under my hand and seal this 17th day of June in the year of our Lord, nineteen hundred and forty-nine.

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J. Strom Thurmond, Governor