

Executive Department
State of California

P R O C L A M A T I O N

One hundred years ago--on November 19, 1863--Abraham Lincoln spoke those immortal words which so simply and movingly stated the purpose of the American people and its government.

In dedicating the national cemetery at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, he warned that the nation must resolve that "these dead shall not have died in vain".

And he pledged, in those words that still ring with truth, "that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom, and that government of the people, by the people, for the people, shall not perish from the earth."

In many parts of the country today some of our people are still struggling for that "new birth of freedom" and for the democratic promise of equality in our Constitution and Declaration of Independence.

On this anniversary of Lincoln's great declaration, we have the opportunity to rededicate ourselves to the principles of freedom and equality which the Union fought for 100 years ago. It is a time to remind our children, our friends and ourselves of the American heritage of freedom and its dynamic application in our democratic society.

We cannot take that heritage for granted. Freedom is a fragile thing. If we deny its benefits to some, we threaten all with its loss. It cannot be applied unevenly, on the basis of color, race, religion or national origin. Nor can it be turned on and off at the whims of individuals, no matter what their rank or power. To protect freedom is the task of every American and it is this task which Abraham Lincoln handed down to us in his Gettysburg Address.

Accepting that task and to achieve its objectives, I, Edmund G. Brown, Governor of the State of California, do hereby officially proclaim and declare as follows:

1. The week beginning November 17, 1963, is designated as Gettysburg Centennial Week and should receive attention and recognition in the schools, homes, and public assemblages in the State of California for all purposes.
2. Tuesday, November 19, 1963, is designated as Gettysburg Address Centennial Day and should be the occasion of special recognition throughout the length and breadth of California among all of our citizens and residents.

FILED

In the office of the Secretary of State
of the State of California

SEP 26 1963

FRANK M. JORDAN, Secretary of State

Arthur C. Miller
Assistant Secretary of State

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3. That the California Civil War Centennial Commission assist the state and private organizations in a proper celebration of Gettysburg Address Centennial.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 25th Day of September, A.D., One Thousand Nine Hundred and Sixty-Three.

Richard S. Ben
Governor

ATTEST:

James M. Jordan
Secretary of State

By *Walter C. Stutler*
Assistant Secretary of State