



# PROCLAMATION

## By the Governor of Alabama

*WHEREAS, the Star-Spangled Banner was adopted as the National Anthem of the United States in 1931 by an Act of Congress; and*

*WHEREAS, a recent Harris Interactive Survey discovered that of men and women 18 years of age and older, sixty-one percent of those surveyed did not know all the lyrics of the first stanza. Of those who answered the question correctly, fifty-eight percent had received at least five years of music education while growing up; and*

*WHEREAS, an ABC News Poll revealed that more than one in three Americans do not know the official name of the National Anthem is "The Star-Spangled Banner," less than thirty-five percent of American teens can name Francis Scott Key as the composer of the National Anthem, and as few as fifteen percent of American youth can sing the words to the anthem from memory; and*

*WHEREAS, school music education ensures preservation of the musical traditions and historical legacies of the United States; and*

*WHEREAS, the study of music provides a competitive edge for successful educational reform, engages students in individual and group activity, develops creativity, problem-solving and critical and evaluative skills; and*

*WHEREAS, the National Association of Music Education and the Alabama Music Educators Association have taken a lead role in promoting the National Anthem through "The National Anthem Project". The First Lady of the United States, Laura Bush, has agreed to serve as the Honorary Chairperson of "The National Anthem Project" and is lending her support and visibility to this effort; and*

*WHEREAS, the State of Alabama is concerned with maintaining and improving school music programs for all students and teaching the importance of the historical events that created our great nation:*

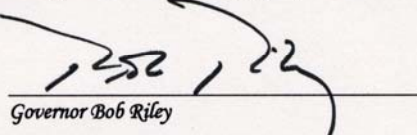
*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Riley, Governor of the State of Alabama, do hereby proclaim, September 14, 2005, as*

## *National Anthem Project Day*

*in the State of Alabama to celebrate the history of the anthem and urge all music educators and residents of Alabama to participate in this event.*



*Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on the 12th day of September 2005.*

  
Governor Bob Riley