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Office of the Governor

GREETINGS FROM THE GOVERNOR

April 27, 2022

As Governor of the State of Nevada, it is my pleasure to extend warm greetings to all who are celebrating Ulysses S. Grant Day, the 200th birthday of the preeminent Union commander during the Civil War and the eighteenth president of the United States. This occasion presents an opportunity to educate Nevadans and all Americans about Grant's contributions to the nation, both military and political.

Ulysses S. Grant was born 200 years ago, in Point Pleasant, Ohio, on April 27, 1822. Upon the outbreak of the Civil War, Grant offered his services to the Union cause, and over the course of his battles and campaigns, he became the principal author of Union victory. When General Robert E. Lee surrendered his Army of Northern Virginia to General Grant at Appomattox on April 9, 1865, Grant's magnanimous surrender terms won him the gratitude of those who had fought his armies on the battlefield and helped reunite the nation. His military victory also enabled the emancipation of enslaved people.

General Grant was twice elected president, in 1868 and 1872, both times winning Nevada's vote. While in office, he secured the ratification of the Fifteenth Amendment, which prohibits racial discrimination with respect to voting rights. Nevada was the first state to ratify this amendment, on March 1, 1869. Moreover, President Grant signed into law the creation of the Department of Justice, several Enforcement Acts, and a Civil Rights Act that upheld Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendment rights. He also achieved significant benchmarks in peace, including the successful resolution of disputes with Spain and Great Britain that threatened war. The Treaty of Washington helped establish the principle of international arbitration as a means for the peaceful resolution of major international disputes. In October 1879, Grant became the first U.S. president (a former president at the time) to visit Nevada.

In recognition of the Ulysses S. Grant Bicentennial, I welcome all who are celebrating the memory of President Grant in the great state of Nevada. I encourage you to further education on his life and legacy and to advance the highest principles of service to country he embodied.



Sincerely,

Governor Steve Sisolak
State of Nevada