



Office of the Governor

State of Utah

SPENCER J. COX
Governor

DEIDRE M. HENDERSON
Lieutenant Governor

Greetings!

I am pleased to recognize those who are celebrating the bicentennial of General and President Ulysses S. Grant this year. This occasion presents an opportunity to educate residents of Utah and all Americans about Grant's many contributions to the nation.

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, and eventually became commanding general and a 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 against him, thus helping to reunite the nation. Crucially, his military victory enabled the emancipation of enslaved people.

General Grant was elected president twice, in 1868 and 1872. As president, he secured the ratification of the Fifteenth Amendment, which prohibits racial discrimination with respect to voting rights. 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. The ensuing Treaty of Washington helped establish the principle of international arbitration as a means for the peaceful resolution of major international disputes.

President Grant was also the first sitting president to visit Utah. In October 1875, he was greeted by crowds in Ogden and Salt Lake City and met with Brigham Young.

In recognition of the Ulysses S. Grant Bicentennial, I hope that Utah residents celebrate the memory of President Ulysses S. Grant and strive to emulate the ideals of unity and fairness that he so gracefully exhibited.

Sincerely,

Spencer J. Cox
Governor of Utah