

STATE OF ILLINOIS



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

WHEREAS, First Lady Julia Dent Grant was born on January 26, 1826, in St. Louis, Missouri, and married future General and President Ulysses S. Grant on August 22, 1848; and,

WHEREAS, as the Civil War began, Ulysses S. Grant offered his services to the Union Army while Mrs. Grant traveled extensively to be with General Grant when possible, covering over 10,000 miles during the Civil War, and on one occasion was almost captured by Confederate forces; and,

WHEREAS, General Grant served as President of the United States for two full terms, between 1869 and 1877, during which time Mrs. Grant was one of the three longest-serving First Ladies before Eleanor Roosevelt; and,

WHEREAS, Mrs. Grant was an active and popular First Lady - she met with Cabinet members, Senators, and Supreme Court justices, attended Senate hearings, and perused the President's mail while also having the White House refurbished extensively; and,

WHEREAS, after her husband left the White House, Mrs. Grant accompanied him on a two-and-a-half-year trip around the world, serving as a goodwill ambassador for the United States; and,

WHEREAS, in 1898, Mrs. Grant served as president of the Women's National War Relief Association, which mobilized donations of supplies to American troops fighting during the Spanish-American War, the first time a former First Lady assumed formal leadership for such a large public undertaking; and,

WHEREAS, Mrs. Grant was the earliest First Lady to write her memoirs, published posthumously;

THEREFORE, I, JB Pritzker, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby proclaim January 26, 2026, as **Julia Dent Grant Day** in Illinois.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Illinois to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol in the City of Springfield,
this FIFTH day of JANUARY, in
the Year of Our Lord, two thousand and
TWENTY-SIX, and of the State of Illinois,
two hundred and SEVENTH.




Alexi Giannoulias
SECRETARY OF STATE


JB Pritzker
GOVERNOR