

**LIBERTY DAY -- HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO (Extensions of
Remarks - September 09, 1999)**

[Page: E1822]

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO
OF COLORADO
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1999

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to call to the House's attention an event--actually, a celebration--which is expanding across the country. The celebration is Liberty Day, which honors the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution. Liberty Day was begun by the Colorado Lions and now represents a collaborative project among service clubs. It is totally nonpartisan and supported by all political parties in my state, has been unanimously endorsed by the state legislature, teachers, the state board of education and many others. Booklets containing copies of the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence are printed with private donations, and are distributed to school kids by elected officials who visit classes and speak about the importance of the founding documents.

- Earlier this year, I visited West Middle School in Greenwood Village, Colorado to mark Liberty Day in Colorado. Liberty Day Colorado is officially celebrated on March 16th, the birthday of James Madison. I believe that every student in America should take at least one day to study these documents, learning how these documents give us such remarkable rights and responsibilities as citizens.
- I would like to submit the following six proclamations into the **RECORD**. They were issued by Governor Bill Owens of Colorado; Governor Jim Geringer of Wyoming; Governor Gray Davis of California; the Colorado State Legislature; the Colorado State Board of Education; and the Colorado Federation of Teachers.
- I believe that our founding documents are essential to understanding what it means to be an American. The ideas embodied in these historical documents, so unprecedented at the

time of the Founders, continue to make our country unique in the world today.

- I urge members to take advantage of the opportunity to start Liberty Day in their state. For information, please contact Andy McKean at the Liberty Day Colorado Information Clearinghouse at 3600 E. 48th Avenue, Denver, Colorado 80216; (phone) 303-333-3434; (fax) 303-339-1011; or (e-mail) Liberty Day@aol.com.

COLORADO HONORARY PROCLAMATION

Whereas, we as Americans enjoy our liberties through the documents that our founding fathers created, those being known as the Declaration of Independence and the U.S. Constitution with its Bill of Rights; and

Whereas, James Madison wrote the Virginia Plan, the model and the basis of discussion for the forming of a new constitution, in the constitutional convention of 1787, which new constitution established our new form of government, replacing the Articles of Confederation; and

Whereas, James Madison wrote many of the newspaper articles which outlined the reasons that the states should endorse the new constitution. These articles became known as the Federalist Papers. James Madison served in the U.S. House of Representatives from 1789 until 1797 during which time he introduced into Congress the Bill of Rights; and

Whereas, James Madison was President of the United States from 1809 until 1817; and Tuesday, March 16, 1999 is the 243rd anniversary of the birth of James Madison;

Now Therefore, I, Bill Owens, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim March 16, 1999, as Liberty Day in the State of Colorado.

Given under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this sixteenth day of February, 1999--Bill Owens, Governor.

WYOMING GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATION

We, as Americans, enjoy our liberties which are preserved by the documents that our founding fathers created, namely the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution with its Bill of Rights.

James Madison was a contributing author of the Virginia Plan, the model and the basis of discussion for the forming of a new constitution, in the Constitutional Convention of 1787. The new constitution established our new form of government, replacing the Articles of Confederation.

James Madison kept written records of the Debates in the Federal Convention of 1787, which * * * and compromises finally produced the Constitution of the United States.

Such records were not made public until the last signer died, who was James Madison. His wife, Dolly Madison, sold the records to the United States government, and they were published around 1840.

These articles became known as the Federalist Papers, and were co-written with Alexander Hamilton and John Jay and still stand as some of the best arguments for our form of government, a representative republic.

James Madison served in the United States House of Representatives from 1791 until 1797, during which time he introduced into Congress the Bill of Rights, which was ratified by the States in 1791.

James Madison was Secretary of State from 1801 until 1809, and President of the United States from 1809 until 1817.

For these significant reasons, I, Jim Geringer, Governor of the State of Wyoming, do hereby honor and proclaim Tuesday, March 16, 1999, as ``Liberty Day" in Wyoming

and that the month of March, 1999 be proclaimed Liberty Month in Wyoming in celebration and recognition of the 249th anniversary of the birth of James Madison.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wyoming to be affirmed this 24th day of February, 1999.

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CALIFORNIA GOVERNOR'S PROCLAMATION

Whereas, we as Americans enjoy our liberties through the documents that our founding fathers created, those being known as the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution with its Bill of Rights; and

Whereas, James Madison had considerable influence in the creating of the United States Constitution, in that he wrote the Virginia Plan, which served as the model and basis for discussion for the forming of that new constitution which has so preserved our liberties in this country; and

Whereas, James Madison wrote many of the articles (which became known as the ``Federal Papers'') that persuaded the inhabitants of this new country to endorse and accept the United States Constitution; and

Whereas, James Madison served in the first House of Representatives under the new government (from 1789 to 1797), during which time he introduced the Bill of Rights into Congress, for the full protection and preservation of our liberties; and

Whereas, James Madison was President of the United States from 1809 until 1817; and March 16, 2000 is the 249th anniversary of the birth of James Madison;

Now therefore, I, Gray Davis, Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim March 16, 2000 as Liberty Day, in the State of California.

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 99-016 CONCERNING THE
RECOGNITION OF LIBERTY DAY AND LIBERTY MONTH IN
COLORADO

Whereas, We as Americans enjoy our liberties as a result of the documents that our founding fathers created, those documents being the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution with its Bill of Rights; and

Whereas, James Madison was a contributing author of the Virginia Plan, the model and the basis of discussion for the forming of a new constitution in the constitutional convention of 1787, which new constitution established our new form of government, replacing the Articles of Confederation; and

Whereas, James Madison kept written records of the Debates in the Federal Convention of 1787, which debates and compromises finally produced the Constitution of the United States; and

Whereas, Such records were not made public until the last signer died, who was James Madison, and his wife, Dolley Madison, sold the records to the United States government, and they were published around 1840, and

Whereas, James Madison wrote many of the newspaper articles which outlined the reasons that the states should endorse the new constitution; and

Whereas, These articles became known as the Federalist Papers, and were co-written with Alexander Hamilton and John Jay and still stand as some of the best arguments for our form of government, a representative republic; and

Whereas, James Madison served in the United States House of Representatives from 1789 until 1797, during which time he introduced into Congress the Bill of Rights, which was ratified by the states in 1791; and

Whereas, James Madison was Secretary of State from 1801 until 1809, and president of the United States from 1809 until 1817; and

Whereas, Tuesday, March 16, 1999, is the 248th anniversary of the birth of James Madison; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Sixty-second General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:

That, Tuesday, March 16, 1999, be proclaimed Liberty Day Colorado and that the month of March 1999 be proclaimed Liberty Month Colorado.

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COLORADO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION RESOLUTION TO
SUPPORT LIBERTY DAY AND LIBERTY MONTH IN COLORADO

Whereas, We as Americans enjoy our liberties through the documents that our founding fathers created, those being known as the Declaration of Independence and the United States Constitution with its Bill of Rights; and

Whereas, James Madison was a contributing author of the Virginia Plan, the model and the basis of discussion for the forming of a new constitution, in the constitutional convention of 1787, which new constitution established our new form of government replacing the Articles of Confederation; and

Whereas, James Madison kept written records of the Debates in the Federal Convention of 1787, which debates and compromises finally produced the Constitution of the United States; and

Whereas, Such records were not made public until the last signer died, who was James Madison, and his wife, Dolly Madison, sold the records of the United States government, and they were published around 1840; and

Whereas, James Madison wrote many of the newspaper articles which outlined the reasons that the states should endorse the new constitution; and

Whereas, These articles became known as the Federalist Papers, and were co-written with Alexander Hamilton and John Jay and still

stand as some of the best arguments for our form of government, a representative republic; and

Whereas, James Madison served in the United States House of Representatives from 1789 until 1797, during which time he introduced into Congress the Bill of Rights, which was ratified by the states in 1791; and

Whereas, James Madison was Secretary of State from 1801 until 1809, and president of the United States from 1809 until 1817; and

Whereas, Tuesday, March 16, 1999 is the 248th anniversary of the birth of James Madison;

Be it *Resolved*, That the Colorado State Board of Education proclaim Tuesday, March 16, 1999 Liberty Day Colorado, and that month of March 1999 be proclaimed Liberty Month Colorado.

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COLORADO FEDERATION OF TEACHERS, SCHOOL, HEALTH, AND
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES EXECUTIVE BOARD RESOLUTION REGARDING
LIBERTY DAY COLORADO, MARCH 16, 1999

Whereas the members of the Executive Board of the Colorado Federation of Teachers, School, Health and Public Employees supports all efforts to provide or supplement meaningful education experiences for students in the area of our democratic republic, its structure, function, and history, and

Whereas, Liberty Day Colorado is a statewide, non-partisan celebration of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States of America conducted on the 16th of March, James Madison's birthday, each year, and

Whereas, Colorado students across the state benefit from Liberty Day Colorado through direct instruction and interaction with guest speakers;

Therefore, be it *Resolved*, That the Executive Board of the Colorado Federation of Teachers, School, Health and Public Employees

unanimously voices its support for Liberty Day Colorado to be celebrated on Tuesday, March 16, 1999, and

Be it further *Resolved*, That this celebration be made known to our members and their participation encouraged.

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