

PROCLAMATION

On Memorial Day, we pay solemn tribute to the men and women who marched, flew and sailed in defense of our freedoms and way of life, never to see their loved ones again.

In enduring respect and gratitude for their sacrifice, we hold in our hearts those who fought to preserve our freedoms and our American way of life. Every year, Californians uphold the tradition that began as Decoration Day in 1868, in memory of those lost during the Civil War. After the First World War, this observance was broadened to honor all Americans who have perished in our nation's wars.

While we often spend the Memorial Day holiday at gatherings in the company of friends and loved ones, this year will be unique because of the COVID-19 pandemic. While our observances may be different this year amidst the emergency, they are no less meaningful or genuine. We will take time to reflect on the meaning of sacrifice and heroism, demonstrated by those in uniform over the centuries, and connect it to the heroes of today.

In memory of the fallen, I have ordered that flags be flown at half-staff on all state buildings and grounds throughout California. In addition, I ask you to join me by participating in the National Moment of Remembrance at 3:00 p.m. on Memorial Day, a shared moment of silence to honor those who have made the ultimate sacrifice.

NOW THEREFORE I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, do hereby proclaim May 25, 2020, as "Memorial Day."

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of California to be affixed this 20th day of May 2020.

GAVIN NEWSOM
Governor of California

ATTEST:

ALEX PADILLA
Secretary of State