

WHEREAS, the Bald Eagle was designated as our National Emblem on June 20, 1782 by our Founding Fathers at the Second Continental Congress; and

WHEREAS, the Bald Eagle is unique to North America and represents such American values and attributes as Freedom, Courage, Strength, Spirit, Justice, Quality, and Excellence; and

WHEREAS, the Bald Eagle is the central image used in the Great Seal of the United States, and in the logos of many branches and agencies of the federal government; and

WHEREAS, the Bald Eagle's image, meaning, and symbolism have played a significant role in the beliefs, traditions, religions, lifestyles, and heritage of Americans from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, the Bald Eagle's image, meaning, and symbolism have played a significant role in American art, music, literature, architecture, commerce, education, and culture, as well as in American stamps, currency, and coinage; and

WHEREAS, the Bald Eagle was once endangered with possible extinction but is now making a gradual and encouraging comeback to America's skies; and

WHEREAS, the Bald Eagle was federally classified as an "endangered species" in the lower 48 states under the Endangered Species Act in 1973, and was upgraded to "threatened" status under that Act in 1995; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Interior and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service delisted the Bald Eagle from Endangered Species Act protection in 2007, but it will continue to be protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act; and

WHEREAS, the recovery of the U.S.A.'s Bald Eagle population was largely accomplished due to the vigilant efforts of numerous caring agencies, corporations, organizations, and citizens;

Therefore, I, John W. Hickenlooper, Governor of the entire State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim, forever after, June 20, 2017, as

AMERICAN EAGLE DAY

in the State of Colorado.



GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this twentieth day of January, 2017

John W. Hickenlooper Governor