WHEREAS, The Bald Eagle was designated as the U.S.A.'s National Emblem on June 20, 1782 by our country's founding fathers at the Second Continental Congress; and

WHEREAS, The Bald Eagle is unique to North America and represents the American values and attributes of 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 of the U.S. Government including the Presidency, Congress, the Defense Department, the Treasury Department, the Justice Department, the State Department, the Department of Commerce and U.S. Postal Service; and

WHEREAS, The Bald Eagle’s image, meaning and symbolism have played a significant role in the beliefs, traditions, religious, lifestyles and heritage of Americans from all walks of life, including U.S. military service men/women, American Indians, patriotic, veterans, youth, conservation, educational, outdoors, nature, sportsman, wildlife, political and sports organizations; and

WHEREAS, The Bald Eagle’s image, meaning and symbolism have also played a significant role in American art, music, literature, architecture, commerce and culture, as well as appearing on United States stamps, currency and coinage; and

WHEREAS, The Bald Eagle was once endangered with possible extinction and is 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 a less imperiled “threatened” status under that Act in 1995; and

WHEREAS, The Department of Interior and U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service delisted the Bald Eagle from Endangered Species Act protection in 2007, but will continue to be protected under the Bald & Golden Eagle Act of 1940 and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918; 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.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Pete Ricketts, Governor of the State of Nebraska, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM the 20th day of June, 2019 as

AMERICAN EAGLE DAY

in Nebraska, and I do hereby urge all citizens to take due note of the observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and cause the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed this Eighteenth Day of June, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Nineteen.

Attest:

Secretary of State

Governor