

STATE OF ALASKA



Executive Proclamation by Governor Bill Walker

WHEREAS, the only land battle of World War II fought on United States soil with Japanese occupation took place in Alaska, and Japanese forces occupied two Aleutian Islands for more than a year; and

WHEREAS, the lives of Alaskans were forever changed by the experiences of war; and

WHEREAS, in August 14, 1945, the citizens of the United States received word of the end of World War II and greeted the news of the Allies' noble victory with joyous celebration, humility, and spiritual reflection; and

WHEREAS, the end of the war marked the culmination of a nation-wide effort that overcame the forces of aggression, freed subjugated nations, and ended the horrors of the Holocaust; and

WHEREAS, this victory was achieved not only through the brave soldiers in battle, but also through the service and individual sacrifices of fellow citizens who supported them on the home front; and

WHEREAS, the ending of the war began an unprecedented era of rebuilding, during which time the "greatest generation" worked to strengthen our democracy by promoting civic engagement, volunteerism, and community service; and

WHEREAS, this entire generation of World War II military personnel and civilian population has provided a model of unity and community that serves as a source of inspiration for current and future generations of Americans to come together to work for the continued betterment of our state, our nation and the world.

NOW, THEREFORE, I Bill Walker, Governor of the State of Alaska, do hereby proclaim August 9-16, 2015 as:

WWII 70th Anniversary Spirit of '45 Commemoration Week

in Alaska, and encourage all Alaskans to reflect on the sacrifices made by so many to ensure these United States remain the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Dated: July 21, 2015



A blue ink signature of Bill Walker.

*Bill Walker, Governor
who has also authorized the
seal of the State of Alaska to
be affixed to this proclamation.*