WHEREAS, On August 11, 1945, the people 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 victory marked the culmination of an unprecedented national effort that defeated the forces of aggression, brought freedom to subjugated nations, and ended the horrors of the Holocaust; and

WHEREAS, These historic accomplishments were achieved through the collective service and personal sacrifice of the people of the United States, both those who served in uniform and those who supported them on the Home Front, and the nearly 300,000 Americans who gave their lives in service to their country during World War II; and

WHEREAS, The courage, dedication, self-sacrifice, and compassion of the “ordinary heroes” of the World War II generation continue to inspire our nation, especially the men and women who are currently serving to protect our country around the world; and

WHEREAS, The entire World War II generation, military and civilian alike, has provided a model of national unity and community that will continue to serve as a source of inspiration for current and future generations of Americans to come together to work for the continued prosperity of the United States and the world.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim AUGUST 9 - 16, 2015 as SPIRIT OF ’45 - 70th ANNIVERSARY WEEK in Maryland and call upon the people of our state to join in celebrating this observance.

Given Under the Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, this 9th day of August, 2015.

[Signature]
Governor

[Signature]
Lt Governor

[Signature]
Secretary of State