WHEREAS, on August 14, 1945, the people of the United States received word of the end of WWII and greeted the news of the Allies' noble victory with joyous celebration, humility and spiritual reflection; and

WHEREAS, the victory marked the culmination of a 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, including both those who served in uniform and those who supported them on the home front; and

WHEREAS, August 14, 1945 marked not only the end of the war but also the beginning of an unprecedented era of rebuilding, during which the World War II generation created an array of organizations that helped to strengthen American democracy by promoting civic engagement, volunteerism and service to community and country; and

WHEREAS, the entire World War II generation, military personnel and civilians alike, 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 the United States and the world,

NOW THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim the week of August 9-16, 2015 as

WWII 70th Anniversary Spirit Of '45 Commemorative Week

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 6th day of August, 2015

Governor Jay Inslee