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State of Montana
Office of the Governor



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Executive Order No. 1-98

EXECUTIVE ORDER CONTINUING THE
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. COMMEMORATIVE COMMISSION

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WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. summoned from every American and Montanan qualities that guide and sustain the American spirit and our nation's commitment to equality, justice, freedom and peace, and he awakened our national pride and the essential goodness of our people by leading an American nonviolent movement that enriched our moral purpose as a nation and

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WHEREAS, this human rights movement advocated nonviolent methods of social change in the struggle for justice, equality and freedom, and raised the consciousness of our country through Dr. King's personal dream of a nation where all people are judged, not by the color of their skin, but by the content of their character; and

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WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was recognized on November 2, 1983 by the United States Congress and the President of the United States in the enactment of legislation establishing the third Monday in January as a national holiday in celebration of Dr. King's birthday, beginning in 1986; and

1 WHEREAS, the State of Montana recognizes the significance
2 of Dr. King's life and accomplishments in human rights and
3 passed Senate Bill 78 in 1991, which set aside the third Monday
4 in January as Martin Luther King, Jr./Human Rights Day.

5 NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARC RACICOT, Governor of the State of
6 Montana, by virtue of the authority vested in me under the law
7 and Constitution of the State of Montana, do hereby continue the
8 Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Commission.

9 I. PURPOSE

10 The purpose of the Commission is to:

11 A. encourage appropriate ceremonies and activities
12 honoring the legal holiday honoring Dr. Martin Luther King,
13 Jr.;

14 B. provide advice and assistance to individuals,
15 governments and private organizations concerning the
16 observance of this holiday;

17 C. work diligently to promote throughout the state
18 education and awareness of the principles of nonviolence
19 and respect for human rights for all;

20 D. facilitate workshops and training in human rights to
21 be utilized by public and private sectors and school
22 systems;

23 E. develop a library of applicable data and resource
24 materials.

25 F. seek to involve all sectors, private and public, in a
26 conscious effort to recognize, resolve and resist racism;
27 and

28 G. forward an annual report on its activities to the

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Governor.

II. COMPOSITION

The membership of the Commission shall represent and reach out to particular groups within the community, such as ethnic minorities, elected officials, students, and groups associated with various religions, education, business, labor, youth, peace and justice, and civil and human rights. The names and addresses of members who shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor are submitted by separate letter to the Secretary of State.

A chair shall be appointed by the Governor.

The Commission is attached to the Office of Community Service for administrative purposes.

III. DURATION

The Council shall exist for a period of two years from the effective date of this Order.

This Order is effective immediately.

GIVEN under my hand and the GREAT SEAL of the State of Montana, this 20th day of January, 1998.

Marc Racicot
MARC RACICOT, Governor

ATTEST:

Mike Cooney
MIKE COONEY, Secretary of State