

The State of New Hampshire
By Her Excellency
Margaret Wood Hassan, Governor

A Proclamation

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY
JANUARY 18, 2016

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was a leader of the American civil rights movement, moving many Americans to join his effort to end segregation and racial discrimination through non-violent means; and

WHEREAS, Recognized as one of the greatest orators in American history, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s "I Have a Dream" speech in 1963 raised the public consciousness of the civil rights movement and was an inspiration for his generation and generations since; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. recognized a great social injustice and sought to rectify it through peaceful, non-violent means; and

WHEREAS, Dr. King's work and passion was acknowledged with the passage of The Civil Rights Act of 1964, which recognized the importance of diversity, nondiscrimination, and freedom by prohibiting discrimination based on race in employment and education and outlawing racial segregation in public facilities; and

WHEREAS, The Bill of Rights states that "no state shall deprive any person of life, liberty, or property nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws"; and

WHEREAS, The Martin Luther King Jr. Civil Rights Day bill was signed by Governor Jeanne Shaheen at the State House in Concord on June 7, 1999, in memoriam of the man who hoped all citizens could "one day live in a nation where they will not be judged by the color of the skin but by the content of their character";

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARGARET WOOD HASSAN, GOVERNOR of the State of New Hampshire, do hereby proclaim **JANUARY 18, 2016**, as **MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY** in the State of New Hampshire and urge all citizens to recognize, encourage, and support the end to racial segregation and discrimination based on race, creed, color, religion, sex, or national origin.

Given this 18th day of January, in the year of Our Lord two thousand and sixteen, and the independence of the United States of America, two hundred and thirty-nine.

Margaret Wood Hassan
Governor