



**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

**EXECUTIVE ORDER # 245**

**Relating to the Creation of the  
Wisconsin Lincoln Bicentennial Commission**

**WHEREAS**, Abraham Lincoln, the 16th President of the United States, was one of our Nation's most prominent leaders, demonstrating true courage during the American Civil War, one of the greatest crises in our Nation's history; and

**WHEREAS**, February 12, 1809, marks the birthday of Abraham Lincoln, who rose to the Presidency through a legacy of honesty, integrity, intelligence, and commitment to the United States; and

**WHEREAS**, Abraham Lincoln led the effort to free all slaves in the United States; and

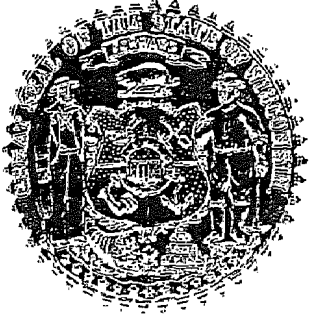
**WHEREAS**, the Congress of the United States has created the "Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission" to study and recommend worthy federal activities to honor Abraham Lincoln in 2009, the year of his bicentennial; and

**WHEREAS**, each state will plan and carry out its own bicentennial tributes to Abraham Lincoln, and coordinate those activities with those of the federal "Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission;"

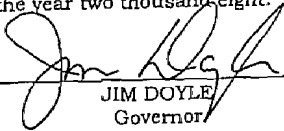
**NOW, THEREFORE, I, JIM DOYLE**, Governor of the State of Wisconsin by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the Laws of this State, and specifically by Wis. Stat. § 14.019, do hereby:

1. Create the Wisconsin Lincoln Bicentennial Commission; and
2. Provide that the Commission shall consist of not more than 31 members, in addition to honorary members, appointed by the Governor to serve at the pleasure of the Governor; and
3. Provide that the Governor shall designate a member or members of the Commission as the chair or co-chairs to serve in that capacity at the pleasure of the Governor; and
4. Provide that the Commission shall have the following mission:
  - a. To study and recommend activities that may be carried out by the State of Wisconsin to honor Abraham Lincoln during the year of his bicentennial; and
  - b. To educate Wisconsin residents about the life of Abraham Lincoln, most especially regarding his years of service as the 16th President of the United States; and
  - c. To assist local governments and organizations with planning, preparation, and grant applications for bicentennial events, programs and projects; and
  - d. To plan and implement worthy activities to commemorate the bicentennial year; and

- e. To coordinate federal, state, and local bicentennial activities occurring in Wisconsin; and
5. Require the Commission to submit a final report on its findings and activities to the Governor and that the Commission shall dissolve when its final report is accepted by the Governor.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this seventh day of April in the year two thousand eight.

  
JIM DOYLE  
Governor

By the Governor:

  
DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE  
Secretary of State