

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
AT CHARLESTON
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 8-13

By the Governor

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., was an African-American clergyman who advanced social change through non-violent means and became the leader of the modern civil rights movement in America in the 1950s and 1960s; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., gained international recognition for leading the struggle for racial equality that changed the United States of America, and today he remains an inspiration to individuals in this nation and throughout the world; and

WHEREAS, to honor the life and achievements of this great American and the principles in which he believed and struggled to bring to fruition, and for which he eventually gave his life, the people of West Virginia join each year in a statewide celebration of the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr., the third Monday of each January; and

WHEREAS, a statewide holiday celebration of this magnitude requires planning, development, promotion, coordination and review by citizens across the State to maximize widespread public participation and to assure the events are successful and in keeping with the symbolism by which they should be observed; and

WHEREAS, these responsibilities can be accomplished effectively by a State Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Martin Luther King, Jr. State Holiday Commission was established by Executive Order No. 12-85 and extended by Executive Orders No. 17-88, No. 8-91, No. 12-98, No. 21-01, No. 10-05, and No. 13-09. Executive Order No. 13-09 expired on June 30, 2013.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, EARL RAY TOMBLIN, by virtue of the authority vested in me as the Governor of West Virginia, do hereby **DECLARE** and **ORDER**, as follows:

1. The Martin Luther King, Jr. State Holiday Commission shall be continued and shall exercise the following powers and duties:

(a) Develop, promote, coordinate and review plans and make recommendations for specific activities to be undertaken by state government for the general public to commemorate the birthday and achievements of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.;

(b) Encourage state, local and county government agencies, educational institutions, organizations and the general public to plan activities for observance of the holiday, and provide them with assistance and information;

(c) Coordinate plans with other state and federal counterparts for observance of the holiday; and

(d) Provide annual reports to the Governor informing on commemorative activities held throughout the State, including findings, proposals, conclusions and recommendations for future annual State celebrations of the birthday and achievements of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

2. The Executive Director of the Herbert Henderson Office of Minority Affairs shall serve as the Chair of the Commission.

3. The members of the Commission shall be appointed by the Governor and shall serve at his will and pleasure. The members shall receive no compensation for their

services; however, all state departments, divisions and agencies are hereby authorized to provide assistance, as requested by the Chair of the Commission, in order to effectuate the purposes of this Order.

4. The Chair of the Commission may request general assistance from the Division of Culture and History, the Herbert Henderson Office of Minority Affairs, or both, to further the goals of the Commission, including reasonable staffing, financial and administrative resources, and the use of division-owned facilities. The Division of Culture and History and the Herbert Henderson Office of Minority Affairs shall provide reasonable assistance upon request.

5. The Commission shall expire on the thirtieth day of June, Two Thousand Seventeen, or as directed by a subsequent Executive Order.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.



DONE at the Capitol, in the City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the eighth day of November, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Thirteen, and in the One Hundred Fifty-First year of the State.

Earl Ray Tomblin

GOVERNOR

By the Governor

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SECRETARY OF STATE