

STATE of WISCONSIN



OFFICE of the GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS; in response to the August 2, 1990 invasion of Kuwait by Iraq, a coalition of around 30 nations, led by the United States, launched Operation Desert Storm – the 1991 Persian Gulf War – on January 17, 1991 to enforce United Nations resolutions calling for Iraq to end its occupation of Kuwait; and

WHEREAS; 10,400 Wisconsinites served in the 1991 Persian Gulf War with 11 losing their lives; and

WHEREAS; during the Persian Gulf War, these service men and women were exposed to endemic diseases, anti-nerve agent pills, biological warfare agent vaccinations, and a veritable toxic soup of burning oil well fires, depleted uranium, exposures to chemical warfare agents, pesticides and petroleum products; and

WHEREAS; it has been documented among Persian Gulf War Veterans that many are victims of injuries and illnesses incurred or aggravated during their service; and

WHEREAS; a report released in 2008 by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs found that exposure to toxic chemicals sickened one-fourth of the almost 700,000 veterans of the Persian Gulf War, concluding that Gulf War illness is a legitimate health condition; and

WHEREAS; the people of the State of Wisconsin honor the service and sacrifice of the men and women who served in the Persian Gulf War, and that of their families; and

WHEREAS; January 17, 2012 marks the 21st anniversary of the launch of Operation Desert Storm, and, in recognition of the continuing sacrifice by members of the U.S. armed forces who develop illnesses from the Persian Gulf War, the State of Wisconsin, by 2005 Wisconsin Act 37 has designated January 17th of each year as "Gulf War Illnesses Recognition Day;"

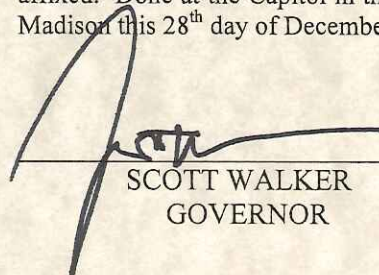
NOW, THEREFORE, I, Scott Walker, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim Tuesday, January 17, 2012, as

GULF WAR ILLNESSES RECOGNITION DAY


throughout the State of Wisconsin, and I commend this observance to all of our citizens.



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 28th day of December 2011.


SCOTT WALKER
GOVERNOR

By the Governor:


DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State