

Executive Proclamation by Governor Sean Parnell

WHEREAS, motivated by a desire to serve and a passion for the state he called home, United States Senator Theodore "Ted" Fulton Stevens dedicated his life to building a better future for Alaskans; and

WHEREAS, following the call to duty, a young Ted Stevens joined the Army Air Corps during World War II. His passion and respect for the United States Armed Services shaped his later career in the United States Senate, where he established a reputation as a staunch supporter for America's military, and an advocate for our men and women in uniform; and

WHEREAS, from his position in the United States Department of the Interior in President Eisenhower's administration, Senator Stevens advanced Alaska's bid for statehood, and his efforts helped to secure Alaska's place as the 49th star on the United States flag; and

WHEREAS, the Senator's efforts to strengthen Alaska's economy, including the timber, oil and gas, fishing, and telecommunications industries brought prosperity, jobs, and opportunities to the state, and his dedication to the passage of such landmark legislation as the Trans Alaska Pipeline Authorization Act ensured the development of Alaska's natural resources; and

WHEREAS, in addition to building Alaska's economy, Senator Stevens was committed to protecting the rights of Alaska's indigenous peoples, and worked hard to gain passage of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971 just three years after he joined the Senate; and

WHEREAS, a dedicated husband, father, grandfather, and friend, Senator Stevens treated all Alaskans as though they were his family, protecting and fighting for our futures, jobs, and rights. Known as "Uncle Ted," all Alaskans are indebted to the man who put his state first and built a better future for all.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Sean Parnell, Governor of the State of Alaska, do hereby proclaim November 18, 2010 as:

Senator Ted Stevens Day

in Alaska, and encourage all citizens to honor the memory of Alaska's former Senator by gathering to remember the spirit and vigor with which he served Alaskans for six decades, and to give thanks for his service and the future he forged for Alaskans.

Dated: August 18, 2010

Sean Parnell, Governor
who has also authorized the
seal of the State of Alaska to
be affixed to this proclamation.

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