



EXECUTIVE ORDER #115

Relating to a Proclamation that the Flag of the United States and the Flag of the State of Wisconsin Be Flown at Half-Staff on May 14, 2021, in Honor of Hmong-Lao Veterans

WHEREAS, during the Vietnam War, thousands of Hmong-Lao people courageously fought alongside Americans in the Secret War in Laos to combat the North Vietnamese Army and communist Pathet Lao forces, a sacrifice met by harsh retribution from the Vietnamese and Lao governments;

WHEREAS, Hmong-Lao soldiers suffered, sacrificed, and many laid down their lives in support of American armed forces, a service to the United States that ultimately forced many of these veterans and their families to flee their homelands, resettling in communities throughout the United States, including Wisconsin;

WHEREAS, we take this day to officially recognize and express gratitude for the contributions of Hmong-Lao veterans, as this year marks the forty-sixth anniversary of the last day of airlift evacuations of officers and their families from Laos to the Nam Phong refugee camp in Thailand; and

WHEREAS, tomorrow, 2021 Assembly Bill 154 will become 2021 Wisconsin Act 31, ensuring these contributions are recognized annually by establishing May 14 as Hmong-Lao Veterans Day in Wisconsin, and this order ensures we recognize Hmong-Lao Veterans Day in 2021 consistent with forthcoming 2021 Wisconsin Act 31.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TONY EVERS, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, by the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the Laws of the State, hereby:

1. Declare May 14, 2021, as Hmong-Lao Veterans Day.
2. Order that the flag of the United States and the flag of the State of Wisconsin shall be flown at half-staff at all buildings, grounds, and military installations of the State of Wisconsin, **beginning at sunrise on May 14, 2021, and ending at sunset on that date**, with the exception of the flags flown at the Wisconsin State Capitol, which instead shall be ceremoniously lowered to half-staff at approximately the hour of 10:00 a.m. on May 14, 2021, and ending at sunset on that date.



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 thirteenth day of May in the year of two thousand twenty-one.

Tony Evers

TONY EVERS
Governor

By the Governor:

Douglas La Follette

DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE
Secretary of State