

STATE *of* MINNESOTA

Proclamation

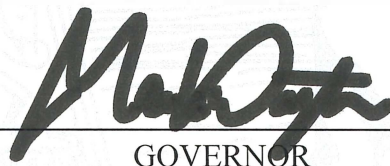
- WHEREAS: Alan Page joined the Minnesota community in 1967, when he was drafted as a right defensive tackle for the Minnesota Vikings; and
- WHEREAS: Justice Page played for the Minnesota Vikings for 11 years, and was a member of the famed "Purple People Eaters." He helped lead the team to four conference titles, played in nine pro bowls, and was awarded Most Valuable Player of the National Football League (NFL) in 1971. His NFL career culminated in his election to the Pro Football Hall of Fame, located in his hometown of Canton, Ohio; and
- WHEREAS: While playing for the Minnesota Vikings, Justice Page began his legal career, attending the University of Minnesota Law School, where he earned his Juris Doctor in 1978; and
- WHEREAS: In 1985, following five years in private practice, Justice Page was appointed as a Special Assistant Attorney General in Minnesota, and later promoted to Assistant Attorney General by Attorney General Hubert H. Humphrey III in 1987; and
- WHEREAS: Justice Page became the first African-American person to serve on the Minnesota Supreme Court in 1992. He was re-elected to this seat in 1998, 2004, and 2010. Justice Page served with distinction before he retired from the Minnesota Supreme Court in 2015, upon reaching the mandatory judicial retirement age of 70. He remains one of the longest-serving Supreme Court Justices in Minnesota's history; and
- WHEREAS: Justice Page has approached each new challenge in his life with humility, unquestioned integrity, and wry humor. He is the only justice to drive home legal points by quoting Dr. Seuss in his opinions, and cheered on generations of Twin Cities Marathon runners by playing "Whistle While You Work" for them on his sousaphone.
- WHEREAS: Justice Page, together with his wife, Diane Sims Page, founded the Page Education Foundation in 1988. An organization dedicated to providing financial support to Minnesota's youth of color, the Page Education Foundation has awarded over \$15 million in scholarships to over 7,000 Minnesotan students of color, and provided almost 500,000 hours of volunteer services to 325 community organizations and schools across Minnesota; and
- WHEREAS: Justice Page and his wife Diane have always expressed that their greatest accomplishment was raising their four children and watching them grow into remarkable adults. Their greatest joy came from their four grandchildren. Despite all they accomplished, the Pages never lost sight of family as their most important priority.
- WHEREAS: Justice Page's lifelong commitment to education, outstanding character and kindness inspired the students of this middle school to vote to change the name of their school to Justice Page Middle School in 2017.
- WHEREAS: On Friday, November 16, 2018, the President of the United States, President Donald Trump, will recognize Justice Alan Page's contributions to this country by honoring him with the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Justice Page will be recognized for this distinguished honor in Minnesota on Monday, November 19, 2018 at Justice Page Middle School in Minneapolis.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Monday, November 19, 2018, as:

JUSTICE ALAN C. PAGE DAY

in the State of Minnesota.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 16th day of November.


GOVERNOR

