Proclamation by Governor Earl Ray Tomblin

Whereas,

March 2, 2011 marks the 50th anniversary commemorating the granting of university status to Marshall University as signed by the Governor, thereby making it possible for Marshall University to fulfill the vision of a public university of and for the people of West Virginia, serving not only West Virginians but the nation with distinction and pride; and,

Whereas, Marshall University is one of the state's premier institutions of higher learning; and,

Whereas,

Marshall University educates more than 14,000 students at campus locations in Huntington, Point Pleasant, South Charleston, Beckley, Logan and Gilbert and offers degrees at the associate, baccalaureate, master's and doctoral levels; and,

Whereas,

Marshall University is building a national reputation for research in biotechnology, forensic science and medicine through its College of Science and the Joan C. Edwards School of Medicine; and,

Whereas, Marshall University is creating new, high-value job opportunities through its research efforts and as a part of West Virginia's Research Trust Fund "Bucks for Brains" initiative; and,

Whereas, with every dollar the state invests in Marshall University, the University generates more than \$20 in economic benefit to West Virginia, resulting in the generation of \$1.5 billion per year in economic impact, which has tripled since 2005; and,

Whereas, a university-record 2,052 new full-time equivalent freshmen enrolled at Marshall University in fall 2010; and,

Whereas, the Robert C. Byrd Institute for Advanced Flexible Manufacturing is providing expertise to more than 5,250 small- and medium-sized manufacturers that employ more than 81,000 individuals across West Virginia; and,

Whereas, the Nick J. Rahall II, Appalachian Transportation Institute of Marshall University is setting national standards in transportation; and,

Whereas, Marshall University's graduate program in Forensic Science is ranked as the top program of its type in the country; and,

Whereas, since 1983, the West Virginia Autism Training Center at Marshall University has provided training, information and support to more than 2,000 West Virginia families from all 55 counties; and

Whereas, Marshall University's medical and health sciences schools and departments train hundreds of West Virginians to serve as doctors, nurses, therapists and health technicians each year; and,

Whereas, Marshall University is establishing the School of Pharmacy, which will produce well-prepared pharmacists for the field's evolving role in health care, will create good-paying jobs and will generate an estimated \$150 million in economic impact; and,

Whereas, Marshall University alumni number more than 90,000 across the globe;

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Earl Ray Tomblin, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby recognize the year 2011 as the:

50th Anniversary of Marshall University

and proclaim March 2, 2011, as:

Marshall University Day

in the Mountain State and encourage all West Virginians to join me in recognizing the service this institution of higher education provides to our state.

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, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Twenty-second day of February, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Eleven, and in the One Hundred Forty-eighth year of the State.



Byth Governor Eymant

Natalie E. Tennant Secretary of State