

STATE OF NEBRASKA



Proclamation

WHEREAS,

The Nebraska Center for the Book, Humanities Nebraska, Nebraska Library Commission, and other organizations across the state are urging all citizens of Nebraska to participate in the One Book One Nebraska Reads "Prairie Forge" initiative during the year 2021; and

WHEREAS,

"Prairie Forge: The Extraordinary Story of the Nebraska Scrap Metal Drive of World War II" written by James J. Kimble, takes readers across the entire state of Nebraska during the scrap metal drive early in America's involvement in World War II. When Henry Doorly initially developed a plan to urge citizens to donate scrap metal to help with arms production, he had no idea that his plan would expand from Omaha to the entire state and then be used as a model for a national scrap drive. "Prairie Forge" draws readers into good discussions about the entire state's participation in the challenge to provide scrap metal. The book covers every county's participation in the Nebraska Plan, and how it fit into the larger effort on a national level; and

WHEREAS,

Reading "Prairie Forge" in communities across Nebraska in 2021 provides common ground for Nebraska citizens of all ages to share their common experiences, reflect on the past, and contemplate the future, connecting Nebraskans across time and place.

NOW, THEREFORE,

I, Pete Ricketts, Governor of the State of Nebraska, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM the year 2021 as

ONE BOOK ONE NEBRASKA: "PRAIRIE FORGE" YEAR

in Nebraska, and I do hereby urge all citizens to take due note of the observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand, and cause the Great Seal of the State of Nebraska to be affixed this Third day of March, in the year of our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-one.



Attest:

Secretary of State

Governor