



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND

J. MILLARD TAWES  
GOVERNOR

12 February 1959

THE WHITE HOUSE  
FEB 13 9 29 AM '59  
RECEIVED

The Honorable Dwight D. Eisenhower  
President of the United States  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

At dawn on July Fourth next, our flag, containing the field of forty-nine stars, may be hoisted legally to its masthead.

During the night of September 12, 1814, Francis Scott Key, a young attorney, watched the bombardment of Fort McHenry in Baltimore harbor. As he stood on the deck of a British Man-of-War, the first light of day revealed the Stars and Stripes flying triumphantly over the Fort. Then it was that he penned the verses which were destined to become our National Anthem.

By Act of Congress, the flag of our great Nation is authorized to fly both day and night at this historic site.

I trust that you will agree with me that it would be most appropriate for you, as President of the United States and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces, to issue a proclamation authorizing the new flag to be raised into position at Fort McHenry at one minute after twelve on the morning of Saturday, July Fourth, Nineteen Hundred and Fifty-Nine. X 07101-6

The issuance of such a proclamation can, I believe, be well justified by the nature of the historical background which I have outlined briefly. I hope most sincerely that this request will be granted.

With kindest personal regards and every good wish, I am

Respectfully yours,

*J. Millard Tawes*  
Governor

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