



THE _____ OF _____

By the _____ Office of the _____

An Official Declaration to Proclaim

September 2009

NATIONAL RICE MONTH

WHEREAS rice is a primary staple for more than half the world's population, and has been one of the most important foods throughout history; and

WHEREAS rice is one of America's oldest agribusinesses, dating back to 1685, and today U.S.-grown rice makes an important contribution to our nation's diet and economy; and

WHEREAS the United States produced more than 20 billion pounds in 2008, and

WHEREAS rice production, processing, merchandizing and related industries are vital to economic activity in Arkansas, California, Florida, Louisiana, Mississippi, Missouri, and Texas; and

WHEREAS the United States is one of the largest exporters of rice, and supplies more than 11 percent of the rice for world trade, feeding millions around the world, and

WHEREAS rice is a food enjoyed throughout life in many forms, as the foundation of main dishes and side dishes, and as cereals, flour, bran, cooking oil, rice cakes and other healthful snacks; and

WHEREAS rice is an important source of nutritional value, as rice provides an excellent source of complex carbohydrates, and is cholesterol-free, sodium-free and trans fat-free; and

WHEREAS rice farmers of this nation represent a key element in the enhancement of habitat for waterfowl such as ducks, geese, swans, cranes, and others; and

WHEREAS the harvest of rice in this nation is celebrated each September:

Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE _____ OF _____

That September 2009 is designated as "_____ Rice Month,"

and the _____ is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of _____

to observe such month with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

