



State of New York

Executive Chamber

Proclamation

Whereas, the incomparable beauty of winter miraculously transforms the entire landscape of the Empire State – from the majestic snow-capped Adirondack mountains, to the glistening peaks of Central New York, to the stunningly scenic Great Lakes – and this time of year heralds the arrival of another exciting season of terrific snow sports; and

Whereas, skiing is one of the most profitable seasonal businesses in New York, contributing more than \$1.1 billion to the upstate economy, and members of the industry are enterprising individuals who work hard to make the experience of skiing New York one of the best in the world; skiing is also one of the largest industries in New York, whereby our State ranks fifth nationally as a destination among the skiing population; and

Whereas, there are snow-blanketed mountains across our State that create a winter wonderland and offer first-rate skiing that few places can equal, and all skiing enthusiasts can enjoy exhilarating days on the slopes for an unparalleled experience that every fan of winter sports would enjoy; and

Whereas, New York has a distinguished winter sports history, best illustrated by its remarkable Olympic legacy, as Lake Placid has been the site of both the 1932 and 1980 Winter Olympics Games, both of them amazing meets with equally incredible results including the USA hockey team's celebrated and legendary upset victory, known as the "Miracle on Ice"; and

Whereas, also setting a high standard of winter sports competition through which exceptional athletes engage in some of the most challenging and demanding tests of physical skill, the annual Empire State Winter Games is one of our State's premier sports events, providing a venue for exciting competition among amateur athletes from across New York who demonstrate remarkable skill in contests of agility, strength and endurance; and

Whereas, the winter months offer an abundance of other recreational outdoor activities including excellent snowmobiling and skating as well as festive events highlighting the thrill and exhilaration of snow sports, such as ski expos, ice shows, outdoor concerts and carnivals held at many winter resorts across our State; and

Whereas, we appreciate the many dedicated people who work tirelessly to uphold an honorable heritage of outdoor recreation and help maintain a strong snow sports industry in New York visible today in its ongoing success and we recognize, as well, those who continue to promote the business, helping to maintain New York State's high ranking among skiers, snowboarders, skaters and participants in other snow sports as they help keep the winter tourism industry healthy and viable, season after exciting season, so that others can know the excitement, wonder and thrill of winter in New York; and

Now, Therefore, I, David A. Paterson, Governor of the State of New York, do hereby proclaim January 2009 as

LEARN A SNOW SPORT MONTH

in the Empire State.



Given under my hand and the Privy Seal of the State at the Capitol in the City of Albany this eighth day of December in the year two thousand eight.

David A. Paterson

Governor

W. J. Conaway
Secretary to the Governor