
NEWS RELEASE

Louisiana
Department of State



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LINCOLN COMMISSION CHOOSES COMMON BOOK

Secretary of State Jay Dardenne and the Louisiana Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission are announcing the selection of "Abraham Lincoln" by George McGovern as the common book for Louisiana citizens. The Commission recommended the book for citizens to learn about Lincoln as part of the celebration surrounding his 200th birthday.

McGovern's "Abraham Lincoln," published this month by Time Books in its American Presidents series, sets out to show how Lincoln became "an unparalleled national treasure, a legend that best represents the democratic ideal," and how he envisioned the United States as "the last best hope of Earth."

McGovern served as U.S. Senator from South Dakota from 1963 to 1981 and ran unsuccessfully for president in 1972. He served as a decorated bomber pilot in World War II and earned a Ph.D. in American history and government at Northwestern University.

"Reading this book about Lincoln is a wonderful way for each citizen of this state to celebrate his 200th birthday, which is February 12," David Madden, chair of the commission said. "May 'we the people' do justice to the president who asked us to have 'a patient confidence in the ultimate justice of the people.'"

Gov. Bobby Jindal appointed 40 members to the commission to represent each of the state's congressional districts. For more information about the members of the commission, visit <http://legis.state.la.us>.

The purpose, mission and goals of the Louisiana Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission match those of the national commission which are to provide information and to propose, advise and facilitate a wide range of commemorative activities throughout the bicentennial year of 2009. For more information about the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, call David Madden at 225.344.3630 or e-mail dmadden@lsu.edu. For more information about the national commission, visit www.abrahamlincoln200.org.

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