



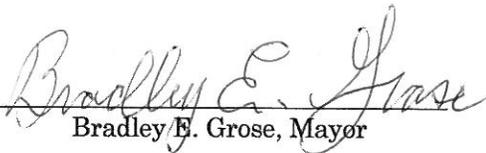
PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** the American War of 1812 was fought between the United States and Britain from June 18, 1812, through February 18, 1815, in Virginia and Maryland, along the Canadian border, along the western frontier, along the Gulf Coast, and through naval engagements in the Great Lakes and the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans; and
- WHEREAS,** the strategic location of the Chesapeake Bay near the nation's capital made it a prime target for the British, and the coast of Virginia figures prominently in the Atlantic theatre of operations; and
- WHEREAS,** there were some 73 armed encounters with the British that took place in Virginia during the war, and Virginians actively fought in Maryland, Virginia, and Ohio and in naval engagements; and
- WHEREAS,** an estimated 70,000 Virginians served during the American War of 1812; and
- WHEREAS,** the American War of 1812 helped forge a national identity among the American states and laid the groundwork for a national system of homeland defense and a professional military within the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** the bicentennial of the American War of 1812 provides an opportunity for all Americans to commemorate the independence for which our forefathers so bravely fought; and
- WHEREAS,** the 2009 Virginia General Assembly established the Virginia Bicentennial of the American War of 1812 Commission to lead the Commonwealth's commemoration of the bicentennial of America's Forgotten War, the Second War of Independence, and localities throughout the State have been requested to commemorate the bicentennial locally with appropriate activities and to participate in the several signature events and other numerous programs and activities have been planned for the Commonwealth.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bradley E. Grose, Mayor of the Town of Vinton, commemorate the Bicentennial of the American War of 1812 in Virginia and urge all our citizens to participate in the statewide bicentennial events.

IN WITNESS, WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the Town of Vinton to be affixed, this, the tenth day of November, 2011.




Bradley E. Grose, Mayor