March 4, 1959

Dear Governor Tawes:

Thank you for your recent letter suggesting the issuance of a proclamation authorizing the new flag to be raised at Fort McHenry at 12:01 A.M. on Saturday, July 4, 1959. I applaud your keen interest in our new flag.

While the Secretary of the Interior has authority under existing laws, Proclamations and Executive Orders to accomplish what you suggest, I have written him and specifically requested that he exercise this authority and raise the new flag over Fort McHenry at 12:01 A.M. on Saturday, July 4, 1959. This will serve to commemorate further the splendid tradition of the Stars and Stripes at Fort McHenry. A copy of my letter to the Secretary of the Interior is enclosed for your information.

I appreciated your writing me.

Sincerely,

DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER

The Honorable J. Millard Tawes
Governor of Maryland
Annapolis, Maryland

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