

**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

**CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION**

**WHEREAS**, the Blues have strongly influenced almost all popular music including jazz, country, and rock and roll and continue to help shape music worldwide; and

**WHEREAS**, on April 15, 2007, Bobby Bryan & The Original Downtown Players won the Wisconsin Blues Challenge, a statewide competition of blues musicians; and

**WHEREAS**, the Challenge win provides them with the opportunity to compete at the 24th Annual International Blues Challenge in Memphis, TN, January 31 through February 2, 2008, for cash, prizes and industry recognition, including playing at festivals nationwide; and

**WHEREAS**, each of the 160 competing acts will perform at clubs on Beale Street both January 31 and February 1, for elimination rounds; and

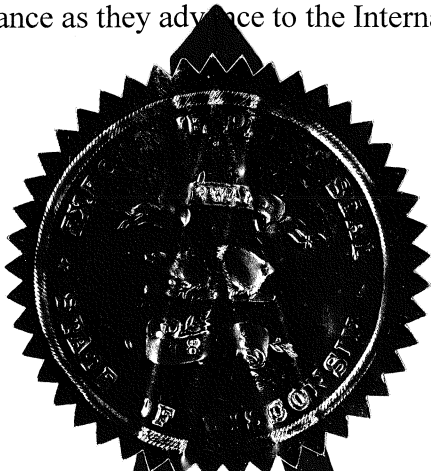
**WHEREAS**, the final elimination, with ten acts competing, will be held on February 2 at the Orpheum Theater in Memphis which holds 2,300; and

**WHEREAS**, these unsigned musicians from six continents, 11 countries and 36 states and the District of Columbia are all dedicated to increasing awareness, understanding, and appreciation of Blues music;

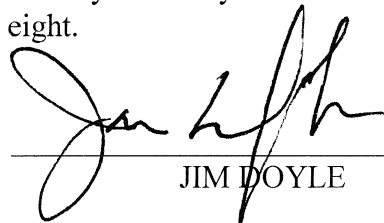
**NOW THEREFORE, I**, Jim Doyle, Governor of the State of Wisconsin, do hereby congratulate

**BOBBY BYRAN AND THE ORIGINAL DOWNTOWN PLAYERS**

for their statewide championship and extend my best wishes for continued excellence in Blues performance as they advance to the International Blues Challenge.



Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this eighteenth day of January in the year two thousand eight.

  
JIM DOYLE