

For Immediate Release  
September 11, 2007



Contact: Norman D. Williams  
Office: 916 / 445-8994  
Cell: 916 / 838-9674



*OFFICE OF LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR  
JOHN GARAMENDI*

**STATEMENT**

**LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR JOHN GARAMENDI'S STATEMENT ON THE  
ETHIOPIAN NEW MILLENNIUM**

**SACRAMENTO**—Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi today issued the following statement:

“At midnight on September 11<sup>th</sup>, the East African nation of Ethiopia will usher in the third millennium, in accordance with their Julian calendar. With more than 78 ethnic groups, 80 languages, 200 dialects and a diversity of religions, Ethiopia is a culturally rich country with a unique history. In 1966, my wife Patti and I served as Peace Corps volunteers in Ethiopia, where we taught English and assisted in healthcare improvement projects. My experience in Ethiopia had a profound effect on my life and inspired me to pursue a career in public service.

“Ethiopians have endured centuries of social, economic and political struggles, but today face a future with promise. I wish the people of Ethiopia a bright and peaceful new millennium marked by prosperity, health and happiness.”

###