

1 But today we have adopted a Constitution which expressly  
2 prohibits discrimination by the State on account of race,  
3 color, religion or national origin.

4 Further, this Constitution is vital proof that  
5 free men in a democracy, free men and women of purpose  
6 and good will, in the perilous and challenging times in  
7 which we find ourselves, can act with courage, speed and  
8 wisdom in meeting the needs of the people who are determined  
9 to live under a system of just laws.

10 We have forged here a document which is more  
11 than a statement of fundamental law. It is a symbol of  
12 our unity and our allegiance to the highest American  
13 political tradition of equality and justice.

14 It presents an improved structure of the poli-  
15 tical system of our State, which is essentially to preserve  
16 liberty.

17 Importantly, we have provided here for the  
18 maximum participation of the people in their governing, and  
19 for keeping the government close to the people. And we  
20 have faced the necessity of making the law so clear that even  
21 the most humble will understand that it is designed to be