



Proclamation

WHEREAS: THE WHITE CANE, WHICH EVERY BLIND CITIZEN OF OUR STATE HAS THE RIGHT TO CARRY, DEMONSTRATES AND SYMBOLIZES HIS ABILITY TO ACHIEVE A FULL AND INDEPENDENT LIFE, AND HIS CAPACITY TO BE PRODUCTIVELY EMPLOYED; AND

WHEREAS: THE WHITE CANE, BY ALLOWING BLIND PERSONS TO MOVE FREELY AND SAFELY FROM PLACE TO PLACE, MAKES IT POSSIBLE FOR HIM TO PARTICIPATE FULLY IN AND CONTRIBUTE TO OUR SOCIETY; AND

WHEREAS: EVERY CITIZEN SHOULD BE AWARE THAT THE LAW REQUIRES THAT MOTORISTS EXERCISE APPROPRIATE CAUTION WHEN APPROACHING A BLIND PERSON CARRYING A WHITE CANE; AND

WHEREAS: MINNESOTA LAW ENCOURAGES EMPLOYERS, BOTH PUBLIC AND PRIVATE, TO FULLY UTILIZE THE ALMOST UNLIMITED SKILL AND POTENTIAL OF OUR BLIND CITIZENS, WHILE REQUIRING THEM TO HIRE AND PROMOTE BLIND PERSONS ON AN EQUAL BASIS WITH THEIR SIGHTED COLLEAGUES; AND

WHEREAS: THE STATE OF MINNESOTA, THROUGH ITS PUBLIC AGENCIES, AND WITH THE COOPERATIVE ASSISTANCE OF THE NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND AND UNITED BLIND OF MINNESOTA, CAN LOOK FORWARD TO A CONTINUED EXPANSION OF EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND GREATER ACCEPTANCE OF BLIND PERSONS IN THE COMPETITIVE LABOR MARKET;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ALBERT H. QUITE, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM OCTOBER 15, 1981 TO BE

WHITE CANE SAFETY DAY

IN MINNESOTA, AND HAVE ASKED LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR LOU WANGBERG TO PREPARE THIS PROCLAMATION FOR MY SIGNATURE AND DISSEMINATE THE SAME. FURTHER, I CALL UPON CITIZENS OF MINNESOTA TO RECOGNIZE THE WHITE CANE AS AN INSTRUMENT OF SAFETY AND SELF-HELP FOR BLIND PEDESTRIANS ON OUR STREETS AND HIGHWAYS.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, WE HAVE HEREUNTO SET OUR HANDS AND CAUSED THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA TO BE AFFIXED THIS FIFTH DAY OF OCTOBER IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD ONE THOUSAND NINE HUNDRED EIGHTY ONE AND OF THE STATE THE ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-THIRD.

4334034
Joan Anderson Howe *Albert H. Quite*