



## Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Traffic crashes cause more violent deaths in the United States than any other cause, over 50,000 in 1980; and
- WHEREAS: Traffic crashes also play a substantial role in serious injuries, causing most of the new cases of epilepsy and paraplegia in the United States each year; and
- WHEREAS: Between 45 and 55 percent of fatally injured drivers have alcohol concentrations in their blood above the legal limit, and this figure rises to 55 to 65 percent in single-vehicle crashes; and
- WHEREAS: The total societal cost of drunk driving has been estimated to be as high as \$25 billion a year, which does not include the human suffering that can never be measured; and
- WHEREAS: There are increasing reports of collisions involving drivers who have used prescription or illegal drugs; and
- WHEREAS: Increased public knowledge about the gravity of the problem of drunk and drugged driving may convince alcohol and drug users to refrain from driving, and may stimulate interest in research about effects of drugs on driving ability and the incidence of traffic crashes; and
- WHEREAS: National awareness of the problems of drunk and drugged driving may help to sustain current efforts to develop comprehensive solutions at the State and local levels; and
- WHEREAS: The Christmas and New Year's holiday period is a particularly appropriate time to focus national attention on this critical problem, because more drivers are on the roads, more social functions are attended, and more traffic collisions occur;
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rudy Perpich, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the week of December 11 through December 17, 1983, to be

NATIONAL DRUNK & DRUGGED DRIVING AWARENESS WEEK

#34871  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FILED  
NOV 15 1983

*Jean Anderson*  
Secretary of State

in Minnesota, in support of national and local observances.

FURTHER, I remind our fellow citizens that safety belts and child safety seats are our best defense against all the hazards of the road.

*Rudy Perpich*  
*Jean Anderson*

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this ninth day of November in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighty-three and of the State the one hundred and twenty-third.