



Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Over one half of all blindness and 90 percent of all accidental blindness is preventable, and unimpaired vision is one of the most precious elements of good health; and
- WHEREAS: Cataracts account for 14 percent of all lost vision in Minnesota; 80,000 Minnesotans have glaucoma and don't realize it; and 145,000 sight-threatening conditions are preventable; and
- WHEREAS: The Minnesota Society for the Prevention of Blindness and Preservation of Hearing, a voluntary health agency operating since 1939, has developed screening tools, educational seminars, public information programs and other devices for the improvement of eye health and prevention of eye accidents; and
- WHEREAS: MSPB/PH-endorsed legislation has helped prevent thousands of potentially blinding accidents through the safe fireworks law (1941), BB gun legislation (1949), and driver's license vision testing (1969); and
- WHEREAS: Over 300,000 four-year-old children have been screened since the 1959 inception of the pre-school screening program, celebrating its 25th anniversary this year; and
- WHEREAS: The Minnesota Adult Home Eye Screening, a simple, but effective tool used in the comfort of one's home in detecting sight-threatening conditions, has been distributed to 300,000 persons throughout the world;
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rudy Perpich, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of September, 1984, to be

PREVENT BLINDNESS MONTH

in Minnesota, and urge all citizens to focus their attention in early diagnosis and care of eye diseases as well as preventing blindness in our industries, schools, farms and homes.

FURTHER, I urge the cooperation of educational, civic and state agencies, along with the Minnesota Society for the Prevention of Blindness and Preservation of Hearing, in making not only September, but every month the year an opportunity to conserve the vision and promote the eye health of our citizens.

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 seventh day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighty-four, and of the State the one hundred twenty-seventh.

Rudy Perpich
GOVERNOR

Joan Anderson Grove
SECRETARY OF STATE

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FILED
AUG 9 1984

Joan Anderson Grove
Secretary of State

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