



Proclamation

WHEREAS: In 1964, Congress by joint resolution established October 15 as White Cane Safety Day; and

WHEREAS: The white cane, which every blind citizen of our state has the right to carry, demonstrates and symbolizes his or her ability to achieve a full and independent life and capacity to be productively employed; and

WHEREAS: The white cane, by allowing every blind person to move freely and safely from place to place, make it possible for him or her 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 National Federation of the Blind (NFB), a self-help advocacy organization, is working to secure equal rights and increased opportunity for blind persons in every field of human endeavor; and

WHEREAS: NFB member Bill Laack is running in the 1984 Twin Cities Marathon - a living demonstration of the Federation's motto, "We are changing what it means to be blind;" and

WHEREAS: NFB through Job Opportunities for the Blind (JOB), an employment information and referral service, is expanding employment opportunities for blind Minnesotans in the competitive labor market; and

WHEREAS: The Federation is holding its 64th annual convention, October 12-14, in Duluth;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rudy Perpich, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Monday, October 15, 1984, to be

WHITE CANE SAFETY DAY

and the month of October 1984, to be

BLIND MONTH

in Minnesota.

FURTHER, I call upon our schools, colleges and universities to offer full opportunities and training to blind persons and to open new opportunities for the blind in our rapidly changing society; for all citizens to recognize the white cane as an instrument of safety and self-help for blind pedestrians on our streets and highways.

#35546

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FILED
OCT 9 1984

Joan Anderson
Secretary of State

Joan Anderson
SECRETARY OF STATE

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 third day of October 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

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