



Proclamation

WHEREAS: Serious crime continues to ravage at least one third of all American households each year; and

WHEREAS: The victims of crime often face serious financial, physical, and psychological losses; and

WHEREAS: Traditionally such injuries have been ignored and witnessed have been treated like evidence rather than people; and

WHEREAS: Certain types of victims - children, victims of family violence, minorities, and the poor - have often suffered even more when they found that they had little access to the social service and criminal justice systems; and

WHEREAS: All citizens of the United States should have an equal opportunity to be treated with compassion, dignity and justice; and

WHEREAS: Heretofore such treatment has not been afforded to all victims, witnesses, and their loved-ones or survivors;

WHEREAS: A Crime Victims Task Force Report has verified the existence and seriousness of these charges, has evaluated the needs of crime victims and gaps in services; and has made recommendations to the Governor, the Attorney General, and the Legislature; and

WHEREAS: The Federal Government has now joined the efforts of the several states to ease the burdens on victims, their families, and on witnesses; and

WHEREAS: The State of Minnesota has been and remains a leader among the several states in demonstrated concern for all of its citizens;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rudy Perpich, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the week of April 15 through April 21, 1985, to be

VICTIMS RIGHTS WEEK

in Minnesota.

FURTHER, I urge all citizens and institutions, public and private, to support the establishment and enforcement of victims rights in Minnesota through participation in local and state activities commemorating those rights.

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FILED
APR 11 1985

Jean Anderson Howe
Secretary of State

#35981

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 eighth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighty-five, and of the State the one hundred twenty-seventh.

Rudy Perpich
GOVERNOR

Jean Anderson Howe
SECRETARY OF STATE

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