



## Proclamation

JUL 17 1985

- WHEREAS: The Social Security Act was signed into law by President Franklin D. Roosevelt 50 years ago on August 14, 1935, establishing the beginnings of a new social security system that today protects families against loss of income due to retirement, disability, or death of a wage earner and assists in meeting some of the medical expenses of the elderly and long-term disabled; and
- WHEREAS: Ninety-four per cent of those reaching age 65 are eligible for monthly social security benefits; 95 per cent of young children and their surviving parents are eligible for monthly benefits upon the death of a work (parent/spouse). Over 4 out of 5 workers have worked long enough that they could get benefits should they become severely disabled; and
- WHEREAS: More than 120 million people work in covered employment and self employment in our nation and pay social security taxes; and
- WHEREAS: The Social Security system today provides cash benefits that are automatically adjusted to approximately 37 million Americans to protect against erosion by inflation; and
- WHEREAS: The Social Security program is the base of economic protection on which workers can build additionally through pension, insurance, savings and other income; and
- WHEREAS: Social Security protects 14 million Americans from poverty, two-thirds of whom age 65 or older would have incomes below the poverty level were it not for their social security benefits; and
- WHEREAS: The Social Security program is one of the most important and successful social programs in the history of our nation;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rudy Perpich, Governor of the State of Minnesota, hereby join with the AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF RETIRED PERSONS in observing this 50th Anniversary and commend them for their continued interest and concern for the welfare of the older American and call upon the people of Minnesota to observe the month of August with appropriate ceremonies and activities in celebration of the 50th Anniversary of Social Security and the 20th Anniversary of Medicare and Medicaid.

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

*Joan Anderson*  
*Rudy Perpich*  
GOVERNOR

# 36140