



Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Alzheimer's disease is a progressive, irreversible neurological disorder that affects an estimated 2.5 million American adults; and
- WHEREAS: Alzheimer's disease is the fourth leading cause of death in adults and causes approximately 150,000 deaths annually; and
- WHEREAS: Alzheimer's disease affects approximately 60,000 Minnesotans; and
- WHEREAS: While most victims are over 65, people in their 40s and 50s and even younger can have the disease; and
- WHEREAS: The symptoms include a gradual memory loss, decline in ability to perform routine tasks, impairment of judgement, disorientation, personality change, difficulty in learning and loss of language skills and in most cases the disease will eventually render the victims totally incapable of caring for themselves; and
- WHEREAS: There is no single clinical test to identify Alzheimer's disease and confirmation of the disease requires examination of brain tissue, which is usually performed at autopsy; and
- WHEREAS: Each person with suspected Alzheimer's disease should have a thorough neurological and physical evaluation; and
- WHEREAS: Most Alzheimer's disease victims are cared for at home, but many reside in nursing homes; and
- WHEREAS: The high cost of long-term care for Alzheimer's disease victims both at home and in nursing homes is estimated at more than \$34 billion annually and expected to increase to \$78 billion by 1990; and
- WHEREAS: The fact that the cause is not known and there is no cure makes further research mandatory for our society; and
- WHEREAS: To help ease the physical, emotional, mental and financial burdens of families and patients, a benefit variety show is being held Sunday, May 4, 1986; and
- WHEREAS: The money raised will be used for research, education and family support by the Metro-Minneapolis/St. Paul Chapter of the Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association (ADRDA), one of the first such groups in the United States founded in 1979; and
- WHEREAS: The local ADRDA chapter is part of the national Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders Association, founded in 1980 with the help of the local group, is a privately funded voluntary organization headquartered in Chicago with more than 140 local chapters; and
- WHEREAS: The brainchild behind this benefit is Dorothy Freyberger, a caregiver and local performer, who arranged for the 10-hour marathon of entertainers and celebrities;
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rudy Perpich, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the fourth day of May to be

ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AWARENESS DAY

in Minnesota.

John Anderson
David

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 fourth day of May, the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighty-six, and of the State the one hundred twenty-seventh.

Rudy Perpich

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STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE

FILED
MAY 9 1986

Jean Anderson Howe
Secretary of State