



## Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Small businesses are the backbone of our state and nation; and
- WHEREAS: For over one hundred and fifty years, independent grocers have exemplified the small business spirit and have made important contributions to the Minnesota economy; and
- WHEREAS: Minnesota is proud to be the home of 3,000 independent grocers who strive to meet the changing and growing needs of our citizens; and
- WHEREAS: These retailers are an important component of our state's food industry, which boasts \$5 billion in total sales annually and employs approximately 50,000 men and women across the state; and
- WHEREAS: Accounting for 64 percent of all grocery stores nationwide, independent grocers are responsible for distributing nearly one-half of America's food and grocery products; and
- WHEREAS: They offer a wide array of services and conveniences in the communities they serve, and the men and women who own, manage and work in independent grocery stores play a vital role in their communities; and
- WHEREAS: During the second week of September, retail grocers, wholesalers and manufacturers are setting aside a special time to recognize the contributions made by independent grocers to developing one of the most efficient food distribution systems in the world and to meeting the needs of consumers;
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rudy Perpich, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the second week of September to be

STATE OF MINNESOTA  
FILED

AUG 13 1986

INDEPENDENT RETAIL GROCERS WEEK

*Jean Anderson Howe*  
Secretary of State

Minnesota and hope all Minnesotans will recognize the vital services rendered by independent grocers to our communities and our economy.

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 thirteenth day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighty-six, and of the State the one hundred twenty-eighth.

*Rudy Perpich*  
GOVERNOR

*Jean Anderson Howe*  
SECRETARY OF STATE

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