



Proclamation

- 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 from place to place, makes it possible for him or her to participate fully in and contribute to our society; and
- WHEREAS: The freedom to travel, one of the fundamental rights accorded to all citizens, is as important to the blind as it is for the sighted; and
- WHEREAS: Minnesota law requires that the blind be given equal access to all places of public accommodation, lodging and transportation, subject only to the provisions and restrictions applicable alike to all persons; and
- WHEREAS: Minnesota law encourages employers, both public and private, to fully utilize the unlimited skill and potential of our blind citizens; and
- WHEREAS: The National Federation of the Blind, with more than 50,000 members nationwide, has demonstrated a refreshing commitment to promoting the respectability of blindness through, among other things, its highly competitive scholarship program for blind students; its ceaseless efforts to promote braille as a viable and necessary tool of literacy for the blind; its ongoing efforts to acquire gainful employment for blind persons through its Job Opportunities for the Blind program; its provision of technical assistance to teachers, parents of blind children, law enforcement officials, employers, and state government; and its production of printed brailled and recorded literature about blindness; and
- WHEREAS: These positive programs are supported and enhanced at the state level by the National Federation of the Blind of Minnesota as witnessed by its active promotion in the State Legislature of a bill to provide greater opportunities for instruction in the reading and writing of braille to blind children in Minnesota's public schools and its ceaseless efforts to secure new training alternatives for Minnesota's newly-blind adult population;

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

WHITE CANE SAFETY DAY

in Minnesota. STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FILED

OCT 24 1983

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 fourteenth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighty-eight, and of the State the one hundred thirtieth.

Rudy Perpich
GOVERNOR

Joan Anderson
SECRETARY OF STATE

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