STATE OF MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS: Minnesota, widely renowned for the sky-blue waters of its more than 10,000 lakes, attracts many visitors annually. The quality of life available to its people is made clear by simply traveling throughout our great state; and

WHEREAS: Minnesota is also exceptional in its opportunities for recreation. Dancing is a form of recreation that has been enjoyed for ages, by all ages. Minnesotans are fortunate in that this state has many beautiful ballrooms, in which all forms of dance are practiced. Each year thousands of its citizens and out-of-staters attend its Polka Fests, a unique concept that originated in Minnesota, and has since spread throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS: The Polka Fest concept first originated in the Gibbon, Minnesota area. Cliff and Katie Hermel, of St. Peter, Minnesota, have owned the Gibbon ballroom for nearly thirty years. Their work and their promotions created the Polka Fest. Their ballroom is now nationally recognized as 'The Grand-daddy of all Polka Fests.' This fest has grown to become the oldest and grandest Polka Fest on the North American continent;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rudy Perpich, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim that effective October 1, 1989 and for 365 days thereafter shall be known as

THE YEAR OF THE POLKA

and I further proclaim that effective October 1, 1989 and for 365 days thereafter that Cliff and Katie Hermel be known and regarded as

THE FIRST FAMILY OF POLKA

in Minnesota.

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 twenty-first day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and eighty-nine, and of the State the one hundred thirty-first.

Rudy Perpich
GOVERNOR

Joan Anderson Growe
SECRETARY OF STATE

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FILED

DEC 5 1989

Joan Anderson Growe
Secretary of State

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