



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Meningitis is an infection of the fluid surrounding the spinal cord and brain, with the most common forms being bacterial meningitis and viral meningitis; and
- WHEREAS: Bacterial meningitis is a potentially life-threatening infection, which occurs throughout the world and in Minnesota, and if left untreated, can cause serious, permanent health problems, limb amputation, and death. However, early diagnosis and treatment can decrease the likelihood of these problems; and
- WHEREAS: The most common symptoms of bacterial meningitis include fever, severe headache, stiff neck, sensitivity to light, vomiting, confusion, and rash. Especially early in its course, meningitis can be misdiagnosed because the symptoms can be similar to other kinds of health problems; and
- WHEREAS: Vaccines are highly effective in preventing numerous types of bacterial meningitis, and healthcare providers should be encouraged to inform the public, particularly parents of young children and adolescents, about the importance of being vaccinated; and
- WHEREAS: Meningitis Awareness Month provides an opportunity to promote public awareness of meningitis, enhance public protection through vaccination, and foster greater understanding of the symptoms and effects of meningitis.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of August 2013, as:

MENINGITIS AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of 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 1st day of August.


GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE