



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS:

Since 1981, HIV/AIDS has had a devastating, global impact, killing nearly 39 million people, including 658,000 Americans. An estimated 35 million people are living with HIV/AIDS, with 2.3 million more infected each year; and

WHEREAS:

In the United States, HIV/AIDS infection is a top health concern with almost 1.2 million Americans living with HIV infection, and an estimated 50,000 new HIV infections occurring each year; and

WHEREAS:

In Minnesota, there have been 10,409 cases of HIV infection reported since 1982, and there are 7,723 people currently known to be living with HIV. Of those, men who have sex with men, communities of color, and American Indians continue to have disproportionately high rates of HIV infection; and

WHEREAS:

The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) has designated World AIDS Campaign, an independent organization, to oversee and unite global efforts to combat HIV/AIDS; and

WHEREAS:

Changing the course of the global epidemic requires a renewed and unified effort. The World AIDS Campaign theme for World AIDS Day 2014, "Getting to Zero," aims to reduce new HIV infections, discrimination, and AIDS related deaths to zero; and

WHEREAS:

The fight against HIV/AIDS will only be won through increased advances and equal access to HIV prevention, testing, treatment, and care. Minnesotans are encouraged to educate themselves about the risks of HIV, know their HIV status through testing, practice prevention, and seek care if infected or affected by HIV/AIDS.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Monday, December 1, 2014, as:

WORLD AIDS DAY

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 21st day of November.


GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE