



Proclamation

WHEREAS: About one-fourth of the U.S. population, or 46,800,000 Americans, live in rural areas. Minnesota has a significant rural population, and is the home of the most rural congressional district, the 2nd district; and

WHEREAS: The symptomatology of serious mental health problems in rural areas has been increasing at a rate that parallels or exceeds urban areas. Also, people both directly and indirectly affected by the restructuring of the rural economy are suffering emotional and psychological disabilities; and

WHEREAS: Studies have shown increases in some areas in depression and interpersonal problems, suicide, and spouse and child abuse that coincided with the farm crisis; and

WHEREAS: The National Mental Health Leadership Forum and the National Advisory Mental Health Council will be holding a public hearing on April 12, 1990 in Marshall, Minnesota, to obtain vital information about mental illness and its treatment; and

WHEREAS: The National Institute of Mental Health, which supports the objectives of the hearing, is seriously concerned about the stigma that surrounds mental illness and keeps people, especially rural Americans, from obtaining treatment;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Rudy Perpich, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the week of April 9-15, 1990 to be

MENTAL HEALTH IN RURAL AMERICA AWARENESS WEEK

in Minnesota, and urge all Minnesotans to familiarize themselves with mental illness diagnosis and treatment in order to live a healthier and longer life.

STATE OF MINNESOTA
DEPARTMENT OF STATE
FILED

MAY 14 1990

Jean Anderson Grove
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 ninth day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and ninety and of the State the one hundred thirty-first.

Rudy Perpich
GOVERNOR

Jean Anderson Grove
SECRETARY OF STATE

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