



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Caries, the process that leads to cavities, has become a silent epidemic in this country; and
- WHEREAS: Caries is the most common chronic disease of childhood, five times more common than childhood asthma, seven times more common than childhood hay fever, and 20 times more common than childhood diabetes; and
- WHEREAS: Caries is a preventable infectious process; and
- WHEREAS: Fluoride has been found to prevent or reduce the caries process and can be found in public water and toothpaste. Fluoride varnish can be applied to teeth on a quarterly basis, starting when the first tooth erupts, or by age one at the latest; and
- WHEREAS: Primary care medical providers can provide caries prevention services that include caregiver education and fluoride varnish application as part of well-child examinations or at a visit for episodic (illness) care; and
- WHEREAS: Children's oral health can be improved through stronger collaborative efforts between primary care medical providers and dental providers by ensuring caries prevention services are provided as part of well/ill child care visits, and referrals to dental providers for restorative care can be accepted every time; and
- WHEREAS: Community service organization members equipped with the appropriate education can leverage their knowledge about the needs of their communities and become vocal advocates, educating community members about the caries crisis and how it can be prevented.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Monday, February 29, 2016, as:

CRUSH CHILDHOOD CAVITY 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 26th day of February.


GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE