



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Esophageal cancer is among the most debilitating cancer diagnoses in the United States; and
- WHEREAS: Esophageal cancer is a disease in which tumors form in the esophagus, often preceded by symptoms of pain or difficulty swallowing, indigestion, heartburn, weight loss, hoarseness, and coughing. Risk factors for esophageal cancer include gastric reflux, heavy alcohol use, tobacco use, and obesity; and
- WHEREAS: Esophageal cancer is among the deadliest of cancers, with fewer than one in five patients surviving five years. Survival rates are low because the cancer is usually discovered at the advanced stage, when treatment outcomes are poor; and
- WHEREAS: If esophageal cancer is discovered early, chances for recovery and survival are far better, and treatments for the disease are possible, including: surgery, chemotherapy, radiation, laser therapy, and electrocoagulation; and
- WHEREAS: During this month, we raise awareness of esophageal cancer in Minnesota, in order to promote early detection and treatment.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim April 2016, as:

## ESOPHAGEAL CANCER 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 8<sup>th</sup> day of April.



  
GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE