



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Traffic fatalities on Minnesota roads resulting from distracted driving have increased 14% from 2014 to 2015, from 361 to 411 fatalities; and
- WHEREAS: This additional fatalities include increases from 41 to 61 motorcyclists, from 17 to 41 pedestrians, and from 5 to 10 bicyclists between 2014 and 2015; and
- WHEREAS: The probability of a crash due to texting while driving is significantly higher than the probability of a crash in which the driver has a 0.08 percent blood alcohol content; and
- WHEREAS: Distracted driving is more than texting while driving, including many other non-essential tasks that create unnecessary risk; and
- WHEREAS: Teen drivers are disproportionally involved in incidences of distracted driving; and
- WHEREAS: Teens who witness their parents engaging in distracted driving behaviors frequently demonstrate the same behaviors when they begin driving; and
- WHEREAS: The state's cornerstone traffic program, Toward Zero Deaths, has helped to significantly reduce distracted driving on Minnesota roads over the past decade; and
- WHEREAS: All drivers must share the responsibility of creating and reinforcing a culture of distraction-free driving.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Saturday, August 6, 2016, as:

DISTRACTION-FREE DRIVING 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 2nd day of August.


GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE