



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Pain is a major concern for children and adults and is the number one reason Americans seek medical care; and
- WHEREAS: The Institute of Medicine has found that 100 million Americans live with chronic pain as a result of serious illnesses and injuries; and
- WHEREAS: As many as 20 percent of children in the United States have chronic pain, which is pain that is persistent or recurring frequently for more than three months; and
- WHEREAS: Chronic pain is a serious public health concern, costing the nation an estimated \$560 to \$630 billion annually in medical expenses, lost wages, and lost productivity; and
- WHEREAS: Pain negatively impacts almost every aspect of a person's life including the ability to work, sleep, and engage in social activities, and adversely effects the families and caregivers of the pain sufferers; and
- WHEREAS: The U.S. Pain Foundation's mission is to inform, empower, and advocate on behalf of their 36,000 members across the country and all those who live with chronic pain; and
- WHEREAS: The U.S. Pain Foundation provides education on pain management skills and constructive ways to cope with pain; and
- WHEREAS: Increased awareness about the effects of chronic pain can encourage people to talk to their doctor about chronic pain, improve access to good pain care, and empower and validate those living with pain.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2016, as:

PAIN 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 19th day of August.


GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE