

STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Co-op Month has deep roots in Minnesota, beginning when the first official state proclamation was signed by Governor Luther Youngdahl in 1948; and
- WHEREAS: The celebration became national in 1964, when the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture, former Minnesota Governor Orville Freeman, proclaimed October as Co-op Month; and
- WHEREAS: Minnesota became one of the first states to enact a law authorizing cooperatives; and
- WHEREAS: Cooperatives are locally grown by people who join together to solve a problem or meet a need; and
- WHEREAS: Cooperatives are owned and democratically controlled by their members, which affords them the opportunity to have a real stake in their economic destiny; and
- WHEREAS: Minnesota has a proud heritage of people working together for mutual benefit; and
- WHEREAS: Minnesota is the leading state both in numbers of all types of cooperatives and in memberships in cooperatives; and
- WHEREAS: More than 800 Minnesota-based cooperatives provide agricultural marketing and supply services, financing, electricity, transportation, health care, food, housing insurance, and many other products and services to 3.4 million member-owners; and
- WHEREAS: The cooperative philosophy of working together has promoted community well-being and improved quality of life for Minnesotans.

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

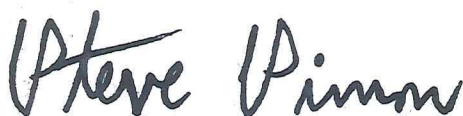
CO-OP MONTH

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 26th day of September.


GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE