



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Rick Stafford passed away on September 2, 2017; and
- WHEREAS: Rick demonstrated his dedication to human rights and social and economic justice through 45 years of activism at every level of the Minnesota DFL and national Democratic Party politics; and
- WHEREAS: Rick was a leading figure, statewide and nationally, in numerous political campaigns, and advised candidates for every office from the Park Board to the Presidency; and
- WHEREAS: Rick was instrumental in the national Democratic Party's adoption of a platform plank in support of same-sex marriage; and
- WHEREAS: Rick was the first openly gay chair of a major political party, serving as Chair of the Minnesota DFL from 1993 to 1995 and as a member of the Democratic National Committee for more than a decade; and
- WHEREAS: Rick mentored countless young activists and traveled throughout Minnesota to assist local party units, congressional districts, and political campaigns and individuals, giving unselfishly of his time and talents wherever he was needed; and
- WHEREAS: Rick also volunteered with many local and national organizations; he was an original member of the Minneapolis Police Civilian Review Board; and served on the Boards of the Minnesota AIDS Project; the DFL Feminist Caucus; and the National Stonewall Democrats, among others; and
- WHEREAS: Rick will be greatly missed by his family, his many friends, and the innumerable people whose lives he touched throughout Minnesota and the United States.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Saturday, September 9, 2017, as:

RICK STAFFORD REMEMBRANCE DAY

in the State of Minnesota.



Tina Smith

LT. GOVERNOR

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 8th day of September.

Mark Dayton

GOVERNOR