



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 2017, as:

CO-OP MONTH

in the State of Minnesota.



Steve Pinnon

SECRETARY OF STATE

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 27th day of September.

Mark Dayton
GOVERNOR