



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: In 2013, the National Indigenous Women's Resource Center (NIWRC) reported to the United States Congress that, "Native women experience violent victimization at a higher rate than any other U.S. population;" and
- WHEREAS: Native women suffer from violence at a rate two-and-a-half times greater than any other group, and more than one-third of Native American and Alaska Native women will be raped and approximately two-thirds will be physically assaulted in their lifetimes; and
- WHEREAS: This sadness and trauma spans generations; Native women have experienced sexual trauma related to sex trafficking since initial European colonization of the continent, and this violence and loss continues today; and
- WHEREAS: In some regions of Minnesota, Native women are murdered at rates that are more than 10 times the national average; and
- WHEREAS: This is not only a problem in tribal communities, it is a problem that affects Native women living in Minneapolis and St. Paul and the suburbs and small towns throughout Minnesota; and
- WHEREAS: Violence against our Indigenous women is staggering and heartbreaking; these are our sisters, our mothers, our daughters, our aunts, our colleagues, and our neighbors; and
- WHEREAS: It is imperative that we reduce and end violence against indigenous women and girls, and help victims and communities heal from gender violence; and
- WHEREAS: Murdered and Missing Indigenous Women Awareness Day seeks to build support and increase awareness in Minnesota and across the United States.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Saturday, May 5, 2018, as:

MURDERED AND MISSING INDIGENOUS WOMEN AWARENESS 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 4th day of May.

Mark Dayton
GOVERNOR

Steve Pinn
SECRETARY OF STATE