



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Assistance dogs positively transform the lives of their human partners with physical and mental disabilities; and
- WHEREAS: They serve through many roles, including as devoted companions, helpers, aides, best friends, and close family members; and
- WHEREAS: Assistance dogs include service dogs, guide dogs, hearing alert dogs, and alert/seizure response dogs; and
- WHEREAS: Guide dogs assist people with vision loss, leading individuals around physical obstacles and to seating, crossing streets, entering or exiting doorways, into elevators, and up or down stairways; and
- WHEREAS: Service dogs help people with disabilities carry out tasks such as walking, balancing, dressing, moving from place-to-place, retrieving and carrying items, opening doors and drawers, pushing buttons, pulling wheelchairs, and assisting with everyday household chores; and
- WHEREAS: Hearing-alert dogs notify individuals with hearing loss of specific sounds, including doorbells, telephones, crying babies, sirens, other people, buzzing timers or sensors, and door knocks, as well as smoke, fire, and clock alarms; and
- WHEREAS: Seizure-alert/seizure response and medial-alert/medical response dogs appropriately respond to and notify others of serious medical conditions occurring, such as heart attacks, strokes, diabetes, epilepsy, panic and anxiety attacks, and post-traumatic stress or seizures; and
- WHEREAS: International Assistance Dog Week, August 5-11, 2018, provides an opportunity for communities to raise awareness of the selfless ways all types of assistance dogs can help individuals in mitigating their disability-related limitations; and
- WHEREAS: The State of Minnesota is joining forces with assistance dog partners, organizations, and concerned citizens throughout Minnesota and America to raise awareness of assistance dogs and observe "International Assistance Dog Week."

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the week of August 5-11, 2018, as:

## ASSISTANCE DOG WEEK

in the State of Minnesota.



*Steve Simon*

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 30<sup>th</sup> day of July.

*Mark Dayton*  
GOVERNOR