



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Approximately 40,100 motor vehicle deaths, including pedestrians and cyclists, occurred last year; and
- WHEREAS: 20-25% of those deaths may be caused by distracted driving; and
- WHEREAS: Drivers are interacting more frequently with 'smarter' smartphones and complicated in-car infotainment systems equipped with larger touch screens; and
- WHEREAS: Data shows electronic devices are the most distracting to drivers, and additional non-driving activity cumulatively increases their cognitive impairment; and
- WHEREAS: Teenagers from families where parents engage in distracted driving behaviors frequently demonstrate the same actions when they start to drive; and
- WHEREAS: Despite the existence of texting laws in many states, officers find it challenging to enforce these laws, resulting in poor reporting of distracted driving crashes; and
- WHEREAS: Hands-free driving laws may mitigate poor enforcement; and
- WHEREAS: Only 16 states and the District of Columbia have banned the use of handheld devices while driving; and
- WHEREAS: Statistics show 70% of the top ten deadliest driving days for teenagers fall between Memorial Day and Labor Day.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Saturday, August 11, 2018 as:

## DISTRACTION-FREE DRIVING DAY

in the State of Minnesota.



*Steve Pinn*

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 10<sup>th</sup> day of August.

*Mark Dayton*  
GOVERNOR