



## STATE *of* MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: The State of Minnesota is a leader in supporting safety initiatives targeting safer behavior at highway-railroad grade crossings and around railroad property; and
- WHEREAS: A person or vehicle is hit by a train in the United States approximately every three hours; and
- WHEREAS: Minnesota saw a notable increase in collisions between vehicles and trains in 2017; and
- WHEREAS: Railroad crossing crashes are twenty times more likely to result in death and/or serious injury than highway collisions; and
- WHEREAS: Operation Lifesaver, Inc., is a nonprofit public information and education program dedicated to reducing tragedies as a result of highway-railroad grade crossing crashes and trespassing on railroad property; and
- WHEREAS: Operation Lifesaver believes that many of these tragedies could be prevented by increased public awareness of railroad crossing dangers and the appropriate driving and pedestrian safety laws; and
- WHEREAS: During September 23-29, 2018, Rail Safety Week, people across the United States and Canada will be encouraged to observe added caution when approaching highway-railroad grade crossings, both as pedestrians and as drivers; and
- WHEREAS: Greater diligence at highway-railroad grade crossings will help reduce the number of preventable tragedies at highway-railroad grade crossings and on railroad property.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of September, 2018, as:

## RAIL SAFETY MONTH

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 31<sup>st</sup> day of August.

  
GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE