



STATE *of* MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Friday, October 12th marks the 100-year anniversary of the Fires of 1918; and
- WHEREAS: The Fires of 1918 references a collection of several massive fires in northeast Minnesota, caused by a combination of sparks on the local railroads and dry weather conditions; and
- WHEREAS: The fires left much of western Carlton County and southwestern and southern St. Louis County devastated, causing additional damage in Aiktin, Pine, and Lake counties; and
- WHEREAS: The communities of Moose Lake, Cloquet, Larsmont, Kettle River, Automba, Brookston, Prarie Lake, Hermantown, Canosia, Normanna, and Duluth suffered the most significant destruction and loss of life; and
- WHEREAS: The Fires of 1918 are considered to be the worst natural disaster in Minnesota history. In total, 1,000 people died, with 52,000 people injured or displaced. Thirty-eight communities were destroyed, 250,000 acres were burned, and \$73 million (\$1.188 billion in 2018 USD) in property damage was suffered.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Friday, October 12, 2018 as:

1918 FIRES REMEMBRANCE 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 27th day of September.


GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE