



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: *Clostridium difficile*, also known as *C. difficile* or *C. diff*, is a bacterium that causes inflammation of the colon; and
- WHEREAS: The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reports that approximately 500,000 *C. difficile* infections every year require hospital treatment or affect those already hospitalized, and 862 cases of *C. difficile* were reported in Minnesota in 2017; and
- WHEREAS: Each year, approximately 29,000 patients die within 30 days of the initial diagnosis of *C. difficile*, and about 15,000 deaths are estimated to be directly attributable to *C. difficile* infection; and
- WHEREAS: Studies indicate that *C. difficile* has become the most common microbial cause of health-care associated infections in hospitals across the United States, and that it costs up to \$4.8 billion each year in excess health care costs for acute care facilities; and
- WHEREAS: Improved health practices, such as hand hygiene and environmental cleaning, can significantly reduce the risk and spread of *C. difficile* infections, and greater public awareness and further research is necessary to expand treatment options and provide those affected with an improved quality of life; and
- WHEREAS: The health and safety of all in Minnesota is important to the happiness, prosperity, and well-being of our families and communities.

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

CLOSTRIDIUM DIFFICILE AWARENESS 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 12th day of October.


GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE