



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS: The federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, known in Minnesota as Food Support, is a county-run program that helps low-income Minnesotans purchase food for sound nutrition and well-balanced meals; and

WHEREAS: The Food Support participation rate in Minnesota is sixty-five percent overall and forty-one percent for seniors age sixty and older; and

WHEREAS: Minnesota could receive an additional \$75 million in federal Food Support benefits with full participation in the program; and

WHEREAS: The Food Support program is the only public benefit program that also serves as an economic stimulus, creating an economic boost when new Food Support benefits are redeemed; and

WHEREAS: Generating business at local grocery stores, new Food Support benefits trigger labor and production demand, ultimately increasing household income and additional spending; and

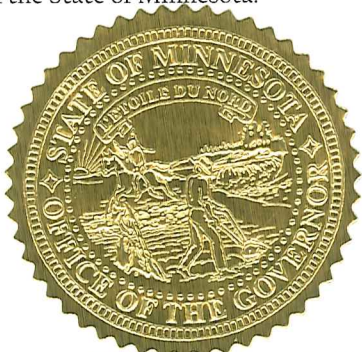
WHEREAS: The Food Support Outreach Program, funded by the United States Department of Agriculture and administered by the Minnesota Department of Human Services, includes a collaborative network of community-based agencies to increase access to accurate information and application of the program and to increase participation, especially among the working poor and seniors; and

WHEREAS: The benefits of Food Support participation are numerous. Well-nourished children have better school attendance and are more focused on learning; good nutrition may help older adults remain independent and live in their own homes longer; and employees whose food needs are met at home may have higher productivity at work and take fewer sick days for themselves and their children.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of January, 2012 as:

FOOD SUPPORT AND NUTRITION OUTREACH MONTH

in the State of Minnesota.



Mark Ritchie

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 3rd day of January.

Mark Dayton

GOVERNOR