



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Our nation's founding principle was stated more than 237 years ago in the Declaration of Independence: "We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness;" and
- WHEREAS: That principle was later embodied in the Fourteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution: "No State shall...deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws;" and
- WHEREAS: These deeply held American ideals of liberty and justice must assuredly protect the freedom for every person to marry the person they love; and
- WHEREAS: Throughout its history, some of our country's most important progress has been to extend equal rights and protections to everyone. And while that progress has often been difficult and initially divisive, it has always been the next step forward to fulfilling our country's promise to every American; and
- WHEREAS: On Tuesday, May 14, 2013, I was honored and proud to sign the Freedom to Marry bill into law on the steps of the Minnesota State Capitol; and
- WHEREAS: On Thursday, August 1, 2013, same-sex couples shall be free to marry in the State of Minnesota, and this event will be celebrated at the stroke of midnight with marriages across our great state.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Thursday, August 1, 2013, as:

FREEDOM TO MARRY DAY

in the State of Minnesota.



A blue ink signature of the Secretary of State, written in a cursive style.

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 31st day of July.

A black ink signature of Mark Dayton, written in a cursive style, positioned above the word "GOVERNOR".
GOVERNOR