



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Vaccines are among the world's most successful and cost-effective public health tools available for preventing disease, and maintaining public awareness of the benefits of vaccines is crucial to protecting public health; and
- WHEREAS: Vaccines have eliminated fear of diseases, such as polio, that once terrorized earlier generations; and
- WHEREAS: Having a well-immunized population protects everyone – especially those who may not be able to receive immunizations because of age or medical conditions; and
- WHEREAS: Immunizations are among the best ways parents can protect their children against serious diseases. Children need a series of vaccinations, starting at birth, to be fully protected against 14 potentially serious illnesses; and
- WHEREAS: Immunizations help children stay in daycare or school and keep parents at work; and
- WHEREAS: Vaccines reduce health care costs by preventing diseases; and
- WHEREAS: It is important for health care professionals, parents, and children's caregivers to protect the health of Minnesota children by ensuring on-time immunization in order to keep vaccine-preventable diseases at bay; and
- WHEREAS: The Minnesota Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Minnesota Academy of Family Physicians, the Minnesota Medical Association, the Minnesota Department of Health, and other medical, public health, and government organizations have deemed infant immunizations vital to the health of all children in our communities; and
- WHEREAS: The week of April 21-28, 2012 has been declared National Infant Immunization Week to help ensure that children have all their vaccinations by age of two.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the week of April 21-28, 2012, as:

## INFANT IMMUNIZATION AWARENESS WEEK

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 16<sup>th</sup> day of April.

  
GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE