WHEREAS: Lyme disease is the most commonly reported tick-borne illness in the United States and Minnesota; and

WHEREAS: May through July is the peak feeding time for blacklegged ticks – also called deer ticks – which transmit Lyme disease bacteria in forested regions of central and southeastern Minnesota; and

WHEREAS: The number of Minnesota residents with Lyme disease has steadily increased, and the disease has spread through all regions of the state; and

WHEREAS: Simple tick-bite prevention measures, such as using tick repellents and conducting frequent tick checks, may reduce the chance of contracting Lyme disease and other tick-borne diseases; and

WHEREAS: Early recognition and treatment of Lyme disease can prevent the long-term health problems associated with the disease.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2013 as:

LYME DISEASE 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 11th day of April.

Mark Dayton
GOVERNOR

Mark Ritchie
SECRETARY OF STATE