



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: June 28, 1862 marked the beginning of commercial railroading in Minnesota, with the inaugural run of the *William Crooks* steam engine and two passenger cars between St. Paul and St. Anthony, with regular service beginning in July of that year; and
- WHEREAS: The run of the *William Crooks* was the beginning of what became the Burlington Northern and Santa Fe Railroad; and
- WHEREAS: This historical event began the transition from river traffic to rail traffic as the primary means of transportation in Minnesota's economy; and
- WHEREAS: The beginning of railroading led directly to the development of Minnesota and the Twin Cities as the transportation hub of the Upper Midwest; and
- WHEREAS: The *William Crooks* is preserved for the people of Minnesota by the Minnesota Historical Society and is on display for the enjoyment and education of the public at Lake Superior Railroad Museum in Duluth, Minnesota; and
- WHEREAS: To commemorate the 150th Anniversary of commercial railroading in Minnesota, Lake Superior Railroad Museum will present an educational exhibit at the Depot in Duluth, Minnesota, detailing the rich history of the *William Crooks* and its important role in the state's history.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the week of July 14-21, 2012 as:

RAILROAD HISTORY 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 3rd day of July.


GOVERNOR




SECRETARY OF STATE