



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Tom Warth founded Books for Africa in St. Paul, Minnesota in 1988 after visiting a Ugandan library that was full of eager students, but void of reading materials; and
- WHEREAS: Access to books and ideas allows children to grow into well-informed leaders, active community members, and self-sufficient citizens; and
- WHEREAS: Warth, at the age of 80, continues to serve as an active advisor and fundraiser to Books for Africa, having most recently walked 20 miles across the island of Zanzibar to raise money and awareness about the lack of books in African schools; and
- WHEREAS: Books for Africa has shipped more than 35 million books to 49 African countries since 1988; and
- WHEREAS: Books for Africa's mission is to disseminate large quantities of useful books wherever they are wanted across the African continent; and
- WHEREAS: Books for Africa annually engages thousands of volunteers in the United States and in Africa in fundraising, book packing, and distribution; and
- WHEREAS: Books for Africa is organizing the Children's Book March, concluding at the Books for Africa Warehouse party in St. Paul, Minnesota on September 24, 2016, led by Warth and David Robinson, son of baseball legend Jackie Robinson; and
- WHEREAS: Celebrating the vision and dedication of Tom Warth will inspire people both in Minnesota and worldwide to contribute their time, money, and talent to increasing the supply of books to African schools.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Saturday, September 24, 2016, as:

TOM WARTH BOOKS FOR AFRICA DAY

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 19th day of September.


GOVERNOR


SECRETARY OF STATE