



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS: AIDS and HIV infection continue to have a global impact, with an estimated 34.2 million people, including 2.1 million children, living with AIDS or HIV infection, while claiming more than 25 million lives worldwide over the past three decades; and

WHEREAS: AIDS and HIV infection continue to be a priority health concern in the United States, with almost 1.2 million Americans living with HIV infection and with an estimated 48,100 new HIV infections occurring yearly. In Minnesota, there have been 9,785 cases of HIV infection reported since 1982 and there are 7,136 people known to be living with HIV; and

WHEREAS: In Minnesota, gay men, communities of color, and American Indians continue to have higher and disproportionate rates of HIV infection; and

WHEREAS: The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) has designated an independent organization, World AIDS Campaign, to oversee and unite global efforts to combat HIV and AIDS; and

WHEREAS: In recognition of the fact that impacting the global epidemic requires a renewed and unified worldwide, national, and local effort, the World AIDS Campaign theme for World AIDS Day 2012, "Getting to Zero," aims to reduce new HIV infections, discrimination, and AIDS related deaths to zero; and

WHEREAS: The fight against HIV infection and AIDS will only be won through increased advances and equal access to HIV prevention, testing, treatment, and care; and Minnesotans are encouraged to educate themselves about the risks of HIV, know their HIV status through testing, get into and stay in care if infected, and demonstrate compassion for those infected and affected by HIV and AIDS.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim December 1, 2012 as:

WORLD AIDS 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 November.

Handwritten signature of Mark Dayton in black ink.

GOVERNOR

Handwritten signature of Mark Ritchie in black ink.

SECRETARY OF STATE