



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS:** Asbestos has been used in thousands of products because of its unique properties, including, high tensile strength; flexibility; acoustical properties; and resistance to thermal, chemical, and electrical conditions; and
- WHEREAS:** Disturbance of buildings containing asbestos can cause asbestos fibers to become airborne; and
- WHEREAS:** Inhalation of asbestos fibers can cause serious illness including, malignant lung cancer, mesothelioma, and asbestosis. Many symptoms of asbestosis and mesothelioma, including shortness of breath, severe cough, and chest pain, do not appear for 20 or more years, making early diagnosis difficult; and
- WHEREAS:** Current statistics show 2,000 to 3,000 people are diagnosed with malignant pleural mesothelioma each year in the United States, and 10,000 Americans die each year from asbestos-related diseases; and
- WHEREAS:** Minnesota has developed factsheets and educational information, which provide guidance on testing, remediation, and proper management of building materials that contain asbestos; and
- WHEREAS:** Increased awareness of asbestos in our home and work environments is important so parents, health care providers, housing authorities, contractors, educators, and others, can work together to prevent exposure; and
- WHEREAS:** The Minnesota Department of Health and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency are leading efforts to educate the public about the dangers of asbestos exposure, which can lead to asbestos-related diseases.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the week of April 6- 12, 2014, as:

ASBESTOS AWARENESS WEEK

in the state of Minnesota.




SECRETARY OF STATE

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 1st day of April.


GOVERNOR