



## STATE of MINNESOTA

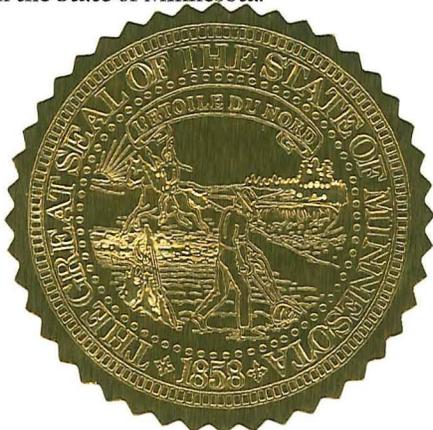
# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: The State of Minnesota is committed to ensuring the safety and security of those attending and visiting our state colleges and universities; and
- WHEREAS: Student housing fires in Minnesota and other states have tragically cut short the lives of promising young people; and
- WHEREAS: At least 169 people, including students, parents, and children, have died in campus-area fires in the United States since January 2000. Approximately 85 percent of those deaths occurred in off-campus occupancies where the majority of college students live; and
- WHEREAS: Last year in Minnesota, there were 35 fires in college dorms, sorority and fraternity houses that caused more than \$19,000 in damage, 27 of which were cooking-related; and
- WHEREAS: Many students live in off-campus residences that are not adequately protected by fire sprinkler systems or smoke alarms. A number of fatal fires have occurred in buildings where fire safety systems have been compromised or disabled by occupants; and
- WHEREAS: Fire safety and prevention education is an effective method of reducing the occurrence of fires that cause death, injuries, and property damage; and
- WHEREAS: It is vital to educate Minnesotans about fire prevention to ensure their safety during their college years and beyond; and
- WHEREAS: The Minnesota Department of Public Safety's State Fire Marshal Division encourages Minnesota school officials, as well as local leaders, to evaluate fire safety in on- and off-campus student housing and take necessary steps to ensure fire-safe living environments through education and the installation of fire suppression and detection systems.

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

## CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY 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 19<sup>th</sup> day of August.

  
GOVERNOR

  
SECRETARY OF STATE