WHEREAS: The health and well-being of children is of paramount importance; and
WHEREAS: Each year in the United States, more than 40,000 babies are born with a congenital heart defect; and
WHEREAS: The medical community has identified congenital heart defects as the leading cause of birth defect-related deaths; and
WHEREAS: Medical research can provide more identifiable means of the origins and symptoms of congenital heart defect; and
WHEREAS: It is crucial that parents, pediatricians, and all those in the health profession have a greater awareness of the potential for congenital heart defects among newborns and children; and
WHEREAS: Congenital Heart Defect Awareness Week provides the opportunity for families and patients affected by these conditions to share their experiences and knowledge with the public, so that we all may be made more aware of how this defect affects all of our lives.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the week of February 7-14, 2014, as:

CONGENITAL HEART DEFECT AWARENESS 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 6th day of January.

[Signature]
GOVERNOR

[Signature]
SECRETARY OF STATE