



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Thirty percent of newly diagnosed cases of prostate cancer occur in men under the age of sixty-five; and
- WHEREAS: African American males suffer a prostate cancer incidence rate up to sixty-five percent higher than white males, and double the mortality rate; and
- WHEREAS: Obesity is a significant predictor of the severity of prostate cancer and the probability that the disease will lead to death, and high cholesterol levels are strongly associated with advanced prostate cancer; and
- WHEREAS: If a man in the State of Minnesota has one family member diagnosed with prostate cancer, he has a one in three chance of being diagnosed with prostate cancer; if he has two family members with such diagnosis, he has an eighty-three percent risk; and if he has three family members with such diagnosis, he has a ninety-seven percent risk of prostate cancer; and
- WHEREAS: Screening by both a digital rectal examination (DRE) and a prostate-specific antigen blood test (PSA) can diagnose the disease in its early stages, increasing the chances of survival to nearly 100 percent, while only thirty-three percent of men survive more than five years if diagnosed during the late stages of the disease; and
- WHEREAS: There are no noticeable symptoms of prostate cancer while it is still in the early stages, making screening critical; and
- WHEREAS: Ongoing research promises further improvements in prostate cancer prevention, early detection, and treatments; and
- WHEREAS: Educating people in Minnesota, including health care providers, about prostate cancer and early detection strategies is crucial to saving the lives of men and preserving and protecting families; and
- WHEREAS: The State of Minnesota has averaged over 4,250 prostate cancer diagnosis per year, and over 510 deaths from prostate cancer each year.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of September, 2011 as:

PROSTATE CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of Minnesota, and urge all men in Minnesota and throughout the country to become aware of their risks of prostate cancer, talk to their health care providers about prostate cancer, and get screened for the disease.



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 7th day of September.


GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE