



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS: American Sign Language (ASL) ranks as one of the top third used language in the United States; an estimated 54,000 use American Sign Language as their first language in Minnesota; and

WHEREAS: Dr. William Stokoe conducted groundbreaking research 50 years ago which led to the discovery that signing is language; and

WHEREAS: American Sign Language Teachers Association (ASLTA) is the only organization that serves ASL professionals on both national and local level, and the Minnesota Loon Chapter is hosting the 8th Biennial ASLTA National Professional Development Conference in Bloomington, Minnesota June 24- 27, 2015; and

WHEREAS: This national conference entails keynote speakers and workshops with the goals of improving American Sign Language (ASL) teachers' skills, enhancing the knowledge of American Sign Language and Deaf Culture, and innovative ways of teaching ASL and Deaf Culture; and

WHEREAS: It is important to celebrate the rich history of ASL after 50 years and to continue the visibility of the language and Deaf Culture.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim June 24-27, 2015, as:

ASLTA 8TH BIENNIAL NATIONAL PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

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 18th day of May.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Dayton".

GOVERNOR

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Pinnon".

SECRETARY OF STATE