

STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS: The United States Congress passed the federal Developmental Disabilities and Bill of Rights Act

(DD Act) in 1970; and

WHEREAS: The DD Act finds that disability is a natural part of the human experience and does not diminish

the right of individuals with developmental disabilities to live independently, to exert control and choice over their own lives, and to fully participate in and contribute to their communities through

full integration and inclusion in the economic, political, social, cultural and educational

mainstream of society; and

WHEREAS: Approximately 66,000 – 91,000 Minnesotans have a developmental disability; and

WHEREAS: Individuals with developmental disabilities should be provided with the information, skills,

opportunities and supports to make informed choices and decisions about their lives; and

WHEREAS: These individuals can make choices to live in homes and communities in which such individuals

can exercise their full rights and responsibilities as citizens; pursue meaningful and productive lives; contribute to their families, communities, and state and the nation; and have interdependent

friendships and relationships; and

WHEREAS: It is crucial that individuals can live free of abuse, neglect, and violations of their legal and human

rights; and achieve full integration and inclusion in society, in an individualized manner, consistent with the unique strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities and capabilities of everyone;

and

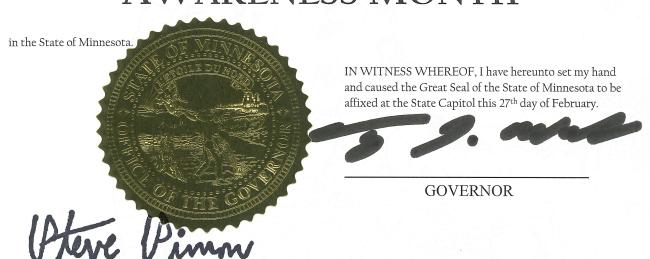
WHEREAS: Developmental Disabilities Awareness Week provides the opportunity for families and individuals

affected by these conditions to share their experiences and knowledge with the public, so that we

all may be made more aware of how Developmental Disabilities affects all our lives.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tim Walz, governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim March 2019 as Development Disabilities Awareness Month in Minnesota, and commend its observance to all citizens.

DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH



SECRETARY OF STATE