STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS: The state of Minnesota works to protect the health and well-being of its residents; and

WHEREAS: Minnesota prioritizes the ability of residents to make personal healthcare decisions by ensuring that critical medical choices are consistent with patients' wishes, even when they are incapacitated; and

WHEREAS: Every adult has the right to appoint a person he or she trusts to make healthcare decisions on their behalf in the event of incapacity; and

WHEREAS: Honoring patient preferences is a critical element in providing quality end-of-life care, ensuring dignity, compassion, and respect in all phases of life; and

WHEREAS: It is essential that all adults discuss their healthcare wishes with their healthcare providers and loved ones, and execute a healthcare directive so their decisions can be honored if they are incapacitated; and

WHEREAS: The National Healthcare Decisions Day Initiative, a collaborative effort of organizations committed to ensuring that adults have access to the information and opportunity to communicate and document their healthcare decisions, has designated April 16th as National Healthcare Decisions Day; and

WHEREAS: Honoring Choices Minnesota, a coalition of healthcare systems and providers in Minnesota, supports the goals of this day and encourages all Minnesotans to communicate their healthcare preferences and execute a healthcare directive to ensure their personal wishes are honored, so as to maintain the highest level of respect for a person and peace of mind for loved ones during a difficult time.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Wednesday, April 16, 2014, as:

HEALTHCARE DECISIONS DAY

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 11th day of April.

GOVERNOR

SECRETARY OF STATE

FILED