

## SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH PROCLAMATION 2011

WHEREAS, the Dayton administration is working toward making every home and community in Minnesota safe; and

WHEREAS, the many voices of those who have been victims of sexual violence must be heard; and

WHEREAS, every child deserves to grow up in an environment that supports each person's ability to reach their full potential; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Health Violence Data Brief on Sexual Violence indicates that the age of patients seeking medical attention after an incident of sexual violence ranged from less than age one to more than 100; and

WHEREAS, since 2002 the rate of hospital care due to sexual violence has climbed 6% every year; and

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Department of Health Report Costs of Sexual Violence indicates that sexual violence injures our citizens, decreases productivity, and costs our state \$8 billion dollars annually; and

WHEREAS, in 2009, the total number of reported rapes represented 17 percent of the total violent crimes in Minnesota with an average of 6 per day; and

WHEREAS, a growing number of Minnesota leaders are committing their leadership to sexual violence prevention; and

WHEREAS, violence that uses sex is preventable; and

WHEREAS, the Governor joins the Minnesota Coalition Against Sexual Assault in believing that all Minnesotans must be a part of the solution to eliminate crimes of sexual violence;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the State of Minnesota and the office of the Governor, do hereby proclaim April 2011 as SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH in honor of all the Minnesotans who have experienced sexual violence, as well as those who have dedicated their lives and their time to serving victims and ending sexual violence in our state.