



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- 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 their ability to reach their full potential; and
- WHEREAS:** The Minnesota Department of Health's '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 one hundred; 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's 'Report Costs of Sexual Violence' indicates that sexual violence injures our citizens, decreases productivity and costs our state \$8 billion annually; and
- WHEREAS:** In 2009, the total number of reported rapes represented 17% of total violent crimes in Minnesota, with an average of six per day; and
- WHEREAS:** A growing number of Minnesota leaders are committed to sexual violence prevention; and
- WHEREAS:** All Minnesotans must be part of the solution to eliminate crimes of sexual violence.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of 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.



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 16th day of March

GOVERNOR

SECRETARY OF STATE