STATE *of* MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS: In today's highly interconnected world, telephones provide a lifeline to emergency help and a vital link to family, friends, government services, and community resources; and

WHEREAS: Not everyone can afford the cost of a home telephone, and a number of our nation's households still do not have telephone services; and

WHEREAS: The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission are collaborating to make telephone service more affordable for low-income consumers by providing a discount on the monthly charges for local telephone service; and

WHEREAS: The Lifeline Assistance (Lifeline) programs offer tremendous benefits for eligible consumers and make basic telephone service more affordable; and

WHEREAS: The FCC has established Enhanced Link-Up and Lifeline programs for Tribal lands, and recently updated its rules governing Lifeline program eligibility and non-duplication support; and

WHEREAS: Consumers should not be without local phone service because they cannot afford it, and promotion of Lifeline is important to assuring that all citizens have access to affordable, basic local telephone service; and

WHEREAS: The FCC, the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners, the National Association of State Utility Consumer Advocates, and other state and federal agencies, local governments, organizations, and telecommunications companies are committed to increasing awareness of the Link-Up and Lifeline programs and encouraging eligible consumers to sign up.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the week of September 9 – 15, 2013, as:

LIFELINE AWARENESS WEEK

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 26th day of August.

GOVERNOR

SECRETARY OF STATE