



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: On July 31, 1884, the first shipment of iron ore left Minnesota; and
- WHEREAS: Since then, iron mining has been one of the largest industries in the state, with Minnesota's iron still accounting for 80 percent of first-pour steel in the United States; and
- WHEREAS: Minnesota iron helped build Minnesota and the United States, by supplying the ore that made steel that industrialized this state and country; and
- WHEREAS: Minnesota's iron ore production was a critical factor in assuring outcomes of the World Wars — Minnesota's production outpaced the Axis power four-to-one to make the steel for armament and ships during World War II; and
- WHEREAS: The iron mining industry in Minnesota continues to grow and expand with new, innovative processing and environmental protection technologies, creating thousands of new jobs and contributing more than \$3 billion annually to the state's economy; and
- WHEREAS: Taxes and royalties from Minnesota's iron mines contributed more than \$90 million to Minnesota schools in the 2012-2013 fiscal tax year; and
- WHEREAS: Minnesotans use products derived from iron mining every day — vehicles, appliances, and infrastructure.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Thursday, July 31, 2014, as:

MINNESOTA IRON 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 28th day of July.


GOVERNOR


SECRETARY OF STATE