



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS: The promise of equal justice under the law is the most fundamental tenet of our justice system; and

WHEREAS: Many Minnesotans continue to lack access to legal assistance, which is often critical to their independence and safety, thereby compelling them to personally resolve complex legal issues, which involve basic rights to child custody, housing, health, employment, and financial security; and

WHEREAS: While members of Minnesota's legal community donate thousands of hours of pro bono legal services and make generous financial contributions to public interest legal organizations, there continues to exist an unmet need for legal assistance for thousands of disadvantaged Minnesotans; and

WHEREAS: Rule 6.1 of the Minnesota Rules of Professional Responsibility underscores that lawyers have a special, professional obligation to ensure our justice system is accessible to all; and

WHEREAS: Pro Bono Week, sponsored by the Minnesota State Bar Association in conjunction with the American Bar Association, is designated to educate the public about the service pro bono lawyers provide to improve the lives of disadvantaged and vulnerable citizens in our state.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the week of October 19-25, 2014, as:

PRO BONO 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 13th day of October.


GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE