



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Nearly 177,000 children in Minnesota, about 14 percent, live in families with incomes below the federal poverty level. More than 140,000 additional children live at or below 185 percent of the poverty level; and
- WHEREAS: Local and national research shows that high quality early care and education settings can substantially increase the proportion of these children who start school ready to succeed; and
- WHEREAS: Public policies that support early learning for young children are crucial to their futures; and
- WHEREAS: The Minnesota early care and education community, in partnership with the National Association for the Education of Young Children, are celebrating the Week of the Young Child, April 12-18, 2015; and
- WHEREAS: These organizations are working to ensure healthy development for Minnesota's children by improving the quality of learning opportunities; and
- WHEREAS: Professionals in the field of early childhood deserve thanks and recognition.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the week of April 12-18, 2015, as:

## WEEK OF THE YOUNG CHILD

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 31<sup>st</sup> day of March.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Dayton".

GOVERNOR

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Pinnon".

SECRETARY OF STATE