



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Tamil is the longest-surviving classical language in the world, with a traceable history exceeding 2600 years; and
- WHEREAS: The Tamil Community of Minnesota has contributed to bilingual literacy with Minnesota being the first state to achieve the Seal of Biliteracy for the Tamil language; and
- WHEREAS: Minnesota Tamils have established a self-sustaining literacy model for Tamil language through scholarship endowment and national level standards for Tamil education; and
- WHEREAS: Minnesota Tamils have made contributions to the social, economic, and cultural fabric of Minnesota including promoting Tamil language, arts, culture, and heritage; and
- WHEREAS: The Tamil community across the globe every year celebrates a four days long Pongal Festival starting on the first day of the first Tamil calendar month, Thai; and
- WHEREAS: The Tamil community of Minnesota welcomes and encourages all people across Minnesota to participate in this celebration and experience their rich and inclusive heritage; and
- WHEREAS: Minnesota Tamils are committed to sharing their culture, richest traditions, and longstanding history with all Minnesotans by celebrating January as Tamil Heritage Month.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of January, 2020, as:

TAMIL LANGUAGE AND HERITAGE MONTH

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 31st day of December.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim Walz".

GOVERNOR

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Pimm".

SECRETARY OF STATE