



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS: Minnesotans have been writing a story about what it means to be good neighbors, showing the world examples of decency, humanity, and an abiding commitment to making life better for one another; and

WHEREAS: Minnesota's small and local businesses anchor main streets, create jobs, and enrich lives across the state; and

WHEREAS: Many of these businesses are owned by, employ, or serve members of Minnesota's immigrant communities, whose contributions strengthen our economy and cultural life; and

WHEREAS: Federal actions have created fear, uncertainty, and disruption, resulting in decreased foot traffic and economic harm to small, locally owned businesses, particularly those most closely connected to immigrant communities; and

WHEREAS: People in Minnesota have a long-standing tradition of showing up for one another through everyday acts of care, neighborliness, and shared responsibility; and

WHEREAS: Choosing where to shop, eat, and spend time is one of the most immediate, accessible, visible, and powerful ways individuals can support their neighbors and help keep local businesses open and thriving; and

WHEREAS: Supporting local, small, and immigrant-owned businesses is an act of community support and an investment in the dignity, stability, and vitality of our neighborhoods and local economies; and

WHEREAS: Support doesn't have to be complicated; it can start with where you shop and eat. Simply showing up and making a purchase is significant; and

WHEREAS: People in Minnesota who feel safe doing so can play a meaningful role in strengthening their communities by prioritizing local businesses, learning about the entrepreneurs who power their neighborhoods, and encouraging others to do the same; and

WHEREAS: To our local businesses: we value you, and we stand together with you.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim February 2026 as:

SHOP LOCAL 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 28th day of January.

The signature of Tim Walz, Governor of Minnesota, in black ink.

GOVERNOR

The signature of Steve Dinn, Secretary of State, in black ink.

SECRETARY OF STATE