



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

WHEREAS: Oral health is integral to overall health and well-being. Poor oral health impacts quality of life affecting one's ability to eat, drink, talk, and smile, as well one's confidence and ability to concentrate; and

WHEREAS: Maintaining good oral health is especially important for children; and

WHEREAS: Children who have poor oral health often miss more school and receive lower grades than children who don't; and

WHEREAS: If left untreated, dental caries, also known as cavities or tooth decay, can cause infections, pain, discomfort, as well as leading to difficulties eating, sleeping, and talking; and

WHEREAS: In severe cases, untreated oral disease can cause disability and even death; and

WHEREAS: Fortunately, dental caries are almost entirely preventable. Good oral hygiene practices like brushing one's teeth twice a day, drinking fluoridated water, and visiting a dentist can help keep children healthy and happy; and

WHEREAS: Minnesota will join partners across the country in observing Children's Dental Health Month. Bringing awareness to the importance of oral health and establishing good habits at an early age can help set up Minnesota children for a lifetime of smiles.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of February 2021, as:

## CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH 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 28<sup>th</sup> day of January.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Tim Walz".

GOVERNOR

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Steve Simon".

SECRETARY OF STATE

Filed on January 29, 2021  
Office of the Minnesota  
Secretary of State,  
Steve Simon