



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: For over 150 years, the United States pursued, embraced, or permitted a policy of forced assimilation of American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian people through the federal Indian boarding school system; and
- WHEREAS: From 1819 to 1969, the federal Indian boarding system was expansive, consisting of a minimum of 408 federal Indian boarding schools, comprising 431 specific sites across 37 states or then-territories, including 21 schools in Alaska and seven schools in Hawaii; and
- WHEREAS: The area known today as Minnesota had 23 Indian boarding schools, 21 of which were directly funded or supported by state or federal resources, and all of which directly impacted the children and subsequent generations of the 11 sovereign Tribal Nations sharing geography with Minnesota, as well as Tribal Nations across the United States; and
- WHEREAS: The creation of the federal Indian boarding school system was part of a broader policy aimed at acquiring collective territories and severing the cultural and economic connections between Indian Tribes, Alaska Native Villages, the Native Hawaiian Community, and their territories; and
- WHEREAS: The assimilation of Indian children through the federal Indian boarding school system was part of the broader goal of Indian territorial dispossession in service of the expansion of the United States, with assimilation eventually becoming an objective of federal policy in and of itself; and
- WHEREAS: The removal and placement of these children in the boarding school system directly led to the breakup of Indian families and the erosion of American Indian Tribes, Alaska Native Villages, and the Native Hawaiian Community; and
- WHEREAS: The deaths of children while under the care of the federal government or federally supported institutions are a tragedy that has for too long been unknown or acknowledged by dominant society, despite this long-felt trauma remaining prevalent throughout American Indian Tribes, Alaska Native Villages, and the Native Hawaiian Community; and
- WHEREAS: The State of Minnesota is committed to educating, raising awareness, and supporting reconciliation efforts to ensure that the tragic history and ongoing legacy of Indian Boarding Schools and the children who died while attending these institutions are never forgotten.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Tuesday, September 30, 2025, as:

DAY OF REMEMBRANCE FOR SURVIVORS AND
FAMILIES IMPACTED BY UNITED STATES
AMERICAN INDIAN BOARDING SCHOOLS

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 10th day of September.


GOVERNOR




SECRETARY OF STATE