



## STATE of MINNESOTA

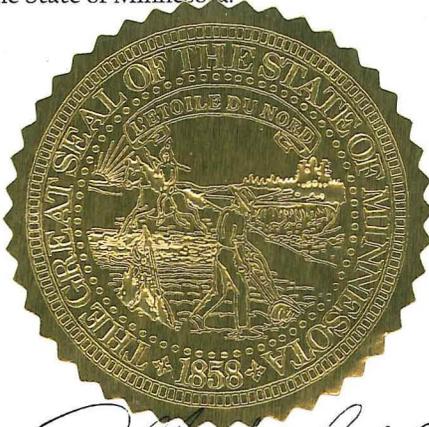
# Proclamation

- WHEREAS:** The State of Minnesota is committed to ensuring the safety and security of those attending and visiting our state colleges and universities; and
- WHEREAS:** Recent student housing fires in Minnesota and other states have tragically cut short the lives of promising young people; and
- WHEREAS:** Since January 2000, at least 158 people including students, parents, and children, have died in campus-area fires. Approximately 85 percent of those deaths occurred in off-campus occupancies, where the majority of college students live; and
- WHEREAS:** Many students live in off-campus occupancies that are not adequately protected by automatic fire sprinkler systems, automatic fire alarm systems, or smoke alarms. A number of fatal fires have occurred in buildings where fire safety systems have been compromised or disabled by students; and
- WHEREAS:** Fire safety education is an effective method of reducing the occurrence of fires and resulting loss of life and property damage, and most college housing fires are due to lack of knowledge about fire prevention; and
- WHEREAS:** It is vital to educate Minnesota's young adults about the importance of fire-safe behavior to ensure their safety during their college years and beyond; and
- WHEREAS:** The Minnesota Department of Public Safety State Fire Marshal Division supports the establishment of Campus Fire Safety Month and encourages Minnesota schools and municipalities to evaluate fire safety in on- and off-campus student housing, and take necessary steps to ensure fire-safe living environments through education and the installation of fire suppression and detection systems.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2013, as:

## CAMPUS FIRE SAFETY MONTH

in the State of Minnesota.



*Mark Ritchie*

SECRETARY OF STATE

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 19<sup>th</sup> day of August.

*Mark Dayton*  
GOVERNOR