STATE *of* MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS: 2026 marks the thirteenth annual observance of Fraud Awareness and Prevention Week, which raises awareness of the impacts of fraud and misuse of State resources; and

WHEREAS: Protecting program integrity is essential to ensuring public resources are used to provide vital services to Minnesotans who need them most; and

WHEREAS: Instances of fraud in state government decrease confidence in public officials and undermine the work and reputation of state employees who carry out their duties with integrity and honesty; and

WHEREAS: Fraud results in increased costs, loss of public revenues and resources, and higher expenses associated with the investigation, prosecution, and incarceration of individuals who commit fraud; and

WHEREAS: The Walz-Flanagan Administration advanced the state's fraud-fighting capabilities, implementing numerous proposals and initiatives to safeguard taxpayer dollars and strengthen program integrity including creating new inspector general positions, increasing agency authority to prevent and stop fraudulent payments, adding new criminal statutes, modernizing technology, and creating the Financial Crimes and Fraud Section of the Department of Public Safety; and

WHEREAS: Employee tips are the greatest source by which fraud is detected and educating employees about fraud prevention, detection, and reporting techniques is critical for reducing the incidence of fraud.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim November 16-20, 2026, as:

FRAUD AWARENESS AND PREVENTION WEEK

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 16th day of November.

GOVERNOR

SECRETARY OF STATE