

STATE OF MINNESOTA



Proclamation

- WHEREAS: AIDS and HIV, the virus that causes AIDS, are among the leading public health concerns here in Minnesota, with more than 5,000 reported cases of HIV infection, including more than 3,300 cases of AIDS since 1982; and
- WHEREAS: there are now an estimated thirty million men, women and children living with AIDS or HIV infection worldwide, including more than 3,700 here in Minnesota; and
- WHEREAS: a strong and committed AIDS/HIV community has been forged in response to this epidemic — a community that transcends the boundaries of local communities and even nations; and
- WHEREAS: a major component of the worldwide HIV/AIDS prevention effort is — and must be — focused on people under the age of twenty-five, who now account for over half of newly diagnosed cases worldwide; and
- WHEREAS: this year's international observance of *World AIDS Day* will include a special challenge to young people, calling on them to "Be a Force for Change"; and
- WHEREAS: young people will be called on to recognize the critical role they must play in containing the international HIV/AIDS pandemic; to become actively involved in efforts within their own communities to reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS; and to have compassion and offer support to those already affected by HIV/AIDS; and
- WHEREAS: the Minnesota HIV community will again mark *World AIDS Day* with a broad program of education and awareness activities, in support of continuing efforts to prevent the spread of HIV/AIDS and provide assistance to people already affected by the epidemic;

NOW THEREFORE, I, ARNE H. CARLSON, Governor of the State of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim December 1, 1998 to be

World AIDS Day

in Minnesota.



Jean A. Grone
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 first day of December in the year one thousand nine hundred and ninety-eight, and of the State the one hundred fortieth.

Arne H. Carlson
GOVERNOR



803189