



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Prosthodontics, a specialty recognized by the American Dental Association, encompasses diagnosing, restoring, and replacing natural teeth in order to rehabilitate and maintain the function, comfort, appearance, and health of patients; and
- WHEREAS: Tooth loss can be caused by decay, gum disease, traumatic injury, cancer, or wear. Tooth loss causes bone to shrink and places stress on the mouth's structure and shape, possibly changing a person's facial appearance; and
- WHEREAS: Many adults who do not replace their missing teeth suffer poor self-esteem, premature aging, poor diet, loss of function, and social embarrassment. By utilizing dental implants, fixed bridgework, or removable partial or complete dentures, a prosthodontists' expertise can change a smile and a life; and
- WHEREAS: Prosthodontists have a highly-skilled understanding of the dynamics of a smile, the preservation of a healthy mouth, and the creation of tooth replacements; and
- WHEREAS: Prosthodontists maintain a strong commitment to the dental health care needs of older patients, individuals with congenital anomalies, and those who have been affected by oral cancer, with many providing pro-bono care to their local communities; and
- WHEREAS: Prosthodontists are represented by the American College of Prosthodontists, an educational and scientific association founded in 1970 to represent the needs and interests of prosthodontists within the dental profession and to the public, by providing a means for stimulating awareness and interest in the field of prosthodontics.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM PAWLENTY, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the week of March 7 - 13, 2010, as:

## PROSTHODONTICS AWARENESS 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 ninth day of March in the year of our Lord two thousand and ten, and of the State the one hundred fifty-first.

GOVERNOR

SECRETARY OF STATE



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