



STATE *of* MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Sexual Assault Awareness Month calls attention to the fact that sexual violence impacts every community in Minnesota, and the many voices of victims and survivors of sexual violence must be supported and heard; and
- WHEREAS: Community advocates have spent decades working to create a safe and supportive environment for victims and survivors, and victims and survivors need continued care and resources; and
- WHEREAS: Every victim and survivor's response is unique, and every victim and survivor has the right to receive support and understanding from friends, families, and their communities, as well as equitable services from medical, legal, social services, and criminal justice systems; and
- WHEREAS: People who are Black, Indigenous, people of color, LGBTQ+, women, and/or young are among the communities most heavily affected by sexual violence; and
- WHEREAS: Many victims continue to face challenges in finding appropriate, culturally responsive, or quality services, particularly for victims from historically excluded communities; and
- WHEREAS: Sexism, racism, homophobia, classism, ableism, religious oppression, and ageism are among the root causes of sexual violence and are significant barriers to victims and survivors accessing support and resources; and
- WHEREAS: All victims and survivors of sexual violence deserve to be served and supported by systems that are not biased against them; and
- WHEREAS: Every child deserves to grow up in an environment that supports their ability to reach their full potential and where sexual violence is not tolerated; and
- WHEREAS: A growing number of leaders in Minnesota are committed to sexual violence prevention and encourage all Minnesotans to commit time, efforts, and resources to prevent and respond to sexual violence in our communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim April 2023 as:

SEXUAL ASSAULT AWARENESS MONTH

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 22nd day of March.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Tim Walz".

GOVERNOR

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Steve Dimon".

SECRETARY OF STATE