



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS:** In 2008, 455 people died on Minnesota highways and 33,379 were injured; and
- WHEREAS:** Eighty percent of all crashes occur within three seconds of a driver distraction event; and
- WHEREAS:** Many fatalities could be avoided by simply following safe driving practices such as using hands-free cell phones and avoiding texting, e-mailing, accessing the Web, tuning radios and stereos, and looking at maps while driving; and
- WHEREAS:** Auto crash fatalities affect all members of our communities, therefore it is necessary for all citizens to be involved in finding solutions and encouraging driver safety; and
- WHEREAS:** All citizens need to examine their own driving habits and commit to protecting others on the road through mindful driving; and
- WHEREAS:** Driver safety education programs work when partnerships are created between drivers of all ages, driver education schools, social communities, faith groups, public safety departments, local and state police departments, and the business community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM PAWLENTY, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Saturday, August 1, 2009, to be:

DISTRACTION-FREE DRIVING DAY

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 23rd day of July in the year of our Lord two thousand and nine, and of the State the one hundred fifty-first.


GOVERNOR



SECRETARY OF STATE