STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS: Colorectal cancer is the second-leading cause of cancer deaths in the United States among men and women, and there currently is no cure; and

WHEREAS: One in twenty people will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer in their lifetimes; and

WHEREAS: African Americans, Hispanic Americans, Asian Americans, American Indians, and Alaskan Natives are significantly less likely to be screened for colorectal cancer compared to Caucasians; and

WHEREAS: While colonoscopies are the recommended form of screening, there are several other less invasive and less expensive tests that can be done; and

WHEREAS: The colorectal cancer death rate could be dramatically reduced if the majority of Americans age 50 or older were screened regularly; and

WHEREAS: While colorectal cancer has been steadily declining among Minnesotans over age 50, the rate has increased by 15 percent for adults under 50; and

WHEREAS: Colorectal cancer is preventable, treatable, and beatable in most cases; it is critical that all people, of all ages, know the signs and symptoms of the disease; and

WHEREAS: Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month provides a special opportunity to offer education on the importance of early detection and screening.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of March 2019 as:

COLORECTAL CANCER 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 4th day of March.

GOVERNOR

Secretary of State