



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Suicide is a national public health challenge that causes immeasurable pain among individuals, families, and communities across the country; and
- WHEREAS: The number of Veteran and Military suicides has exceeded 6,000 each year from 2008-2017; and
- WHEREAS: On March 5, 2019, the President signed Executive Order 13861 calling for the development of a comprehensive plan to empower Veterans and end suicide through coordinated suicide prevention efforts, prioritized research activities, and strengthened collaboration across the public and private sectors. This plan is known as the President's Roadmap to Empower Veterans and End a National Tragedy of Suicide or PREVENTS (the Roadmap); and
- WHEREAS: For every individual who feels alone, ashamed, or believes that they would be a burden if their thoughts or feelings were shared, there are scores of others in every community who want to help but may not be sure how; and
- WHEREAS: Minnesota businesses are in the unique position to leverage the learnings from employees, including Veterans, to encourage a discussion on mental health and well-being in the workplace and collaborate on meaningful solutions; and
- WHEREAS: The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has a Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans, and their Families that brings together interagency teams to address Veteran suicide at the state level; and
- WHEREAS: The State of Minnesota seeks to increase awareness of mental health issues and suicide prevention to reduce suicide for all Americans.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Thursday, September 10, 2020, as:

## PREVENTS 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 1<sup>st</sup> day of September.

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

GOVERNOR

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

SECRETARY OF STATE

Filed on September 1, 2020  
Office of the Minnesota  
Secretary of State,  
Steve Simon