

STATE of MINNESOTA

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WHEREAS:	There are nearly 7,000 diseases and conditions considered "rare'; and
WHEREAS:	Nearly 1 in 10 people in Minnesota have a rare disease; and
WHEREAS:	Many rare diseases are serious and debilitating conditions that have a significant impact on the lives of those affected; and
WHEREAS:	According to the Food and Drug Administration, 450 drugs and biologics have been approved for the treatment of rare diseases, however, millions of Americans still live without an approved treatment; and
WHEREAS:	Individuals and families affected by rare diseases often experience challenges and barriers such as diagnosis delay, difficulty finding a medical expert, and lack of access to treatments or ancillary services; and
WHEREAS:	Many patients and families affected by especially rare diseases take on the responsibility of funding research and raising public awareness themselves. We can all do our part to help them carry this burden by joining their fight against disease, staying informed, and prioritizing compassion and accessibility in our communities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Thursday, February 29, 2024, as:

## RARE DISEASE 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 28<sup>th</sup> day of February.

J. MM GOVERNOR

SECRETARY OF STATE