WHEREAS: There are nearly 7,000 diseases and conditions considered as rare; and

WHEREAS: Many rare diseases are serious and debilitating conditions that have a significant impact on the lives of those affected; and

WHEREAS: While more than 450 drugs and biologics have been approved for the treatment of rare diseases according to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), millions of Americans still have rare diseases for which there is no approved treatment; and

WHEREAS: Individuals and families affected by rare diseases often experience problems such as diagnosis delay, difficulty finding a medical expert, and lack of access to treatments or ancillary services; and

WHEREAS: While the public is familiar with some rare diseases, many patients and families affected by less widely known rare diseases bear a large share of the burden of funding research and raising public awareness to support the search for treatments; and

WHEREAS: Thousands of residents of Minnesota are among those affected by rare diseases since nearly 1 in 10 Minnesotans have rare diseases.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim Sunday, February 28, 2021, 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 26th day of January.

[Signature]

GOVERNOR

[Signature]

SECRETARY OF STATE

Filed on January 29, 2021
Office of the Minnesota Secretary of State,
Steve Simon