STATE *of* MINNESOTA

Proclamation

WHEREAS: Between 2003 and 2012, there were 14,737 vehicle arsons reported in the United States, accounting for 26.5 percent of all arsons annually; and

WHEREAS: In Minnesota, between 2003 and 2012, there were 1,906 vehicle arson fires, accounting for 14 percent of all arson fires during that time and resulting in $9.3 million in property damage; and

WHEREAS: In 2012 alone, there were 144 vehicle arson fires in Minnesota; and

WHEREAS: Vehicle arsons in Minnesota are underreported and may not receive as much attention as structure fires; and

WHEREAS: The Minnesota Department of Public Safety, State Fire Marshal Division and the Minnesota Chapter of the International Association of Arson investigators encourage citizens to call the arson hotline at 1-800-723-2020 to report arson, including vehicle arson; and

WHEREAS: "Vehicle Arson – A Combustible Crime" is the theme for Arson Awareness Week 2014, and Minnesota's fire services and supporters will provide communities with tools to reduce the frequency of vehicle arson.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the week of May 4-10, 2014, as:

ARSON AWARENESS WEEK

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 28th day of April.

GOVERNOR

SECRETARY OF STATE