WHEREAS: Lyme Disease, caused by the bacteria Borrelia Burgdorferi, is an infectious disease spread by ticks, with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimating 300,000 to 329,000 new cases per year in the United States; and

WHEREAS: May through July is the peak feeding time for blacklegged ticks—also called deer ticks—which transmit Lyme Disease bacteria in Minnesota; and

WHEREAS: The number of Minnesota residents with Lyme Disease has steadily increased, and the disease has spread through all regions of the state; and

WHEREAS: Awareness and simple tick bite prevention measures, such as using tick repellents and conducting frequent tick checks, may reduce the chance of contracting Lyme Disease and other tick-borne diseases; and

WHEREAS: Early recognition and treatment of Lyme Disease can prevent the long-term health problems associated with the disease.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of May 2018, as:

LYME DISEASE 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 24th day of April.

Mark Dayton
GOVERNOR

Steve Simon
SECRETARY OF STATE