



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: People with refugee status are part of Minnesota's rich immigrant history with origins from 100 different countries.
WHEREAS: Minnesota is home to more than 100,000 people who have fled persecution to find safety in the United States.
WHEREAS: Refugees are immigrants with legal, permanent status based in part on experiences or well-founded fear of persecution because of race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or social group; and
WHEREAS: Helping refugees successfully resettle and achieve self-sufficiency as quickly as possible in Minnesota is the goal of the Minnesota Department of Human Services Resettlement Programs Office, which coordinates services with federal, state, and local agencies. More than 90 percent of Minnesota's refugee resettlement work reunites families separated by war and violence; and
WHEREAS: People with refugee status contribute to a diverse and competitive Minnesota economy by providing entrepreneurial innovation, vital workforce skills, and global networks. The focus of refugee resettlement is self-sufficiency through employment; and
WHEREAS: Refugees provide a story of resilience and hope for our community. People with refugee status have experienced extreme loss and have had to start their lives and careers over again with little more than courage and determination. These same individuals are now legislators, school board members, teachers, state workers, nurses, factory workers, business owners and more. Their tenacity strengthens the future of Minnesota.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, TIM WALZ, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month June, 2019, as:

REFUGEE RECOGNITION 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 16th day of May.

[Handwritten signature of Tim Walz]

GOVERNOR

[Handwritten signature of Steve Pimm]

SECRETARY OF STATE



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