

SENATE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
NINETY-SECOND SESSION

S.R. No. 111

(SENATE AUTHORS: HAWJ)

DATE

D-PG

03/28/2022

OFFICIAL STATUS

Introduction  
Referred to Rules and Administration

1.1

A Senate resolution

1.2

recognizing September 6, 2021, as Hmong Minnesota Day at the Minnesota State Fair.

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**WHEREAS,** the Minnesota State Fair has operated for 162 years as a festive gathering where

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Minnesotans showcase competition, agriculture, food, merchandise, rides, and industry; and

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**WHEREAS,** Hmong, the original highland people of Laos, were recruited to fight for the

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United States during the Secret War in Laos from 1961 to 1975; and

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**WHEREAS,** after America withdrew from the Vietnam War, Hmong people became the

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target of government persecution. Thousands escaped to the United States and other countries; and

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**WHEREAS,** the first Hmong family to resettle in Minnesota arrived in November 1975.

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The largest wave came after the passage of the United States Refugee Act of 1980; and

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**WHEREAS,** the majority of 90,000 Hmong Minnesotans live in the Twin Cities Metro and

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have contributed to the progress of our state; and

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**WHEREAS,** 2020-2021 has brought unique and difficult challenges to the Hmong Minnesota

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community having faced higher than usual hospitalization and deaths rates due to COVID-19; and

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**WHEREAS,** in 2020-2021, the Hmong in Minnesota along with other Asian American

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communities across the country have experienced a rise in anti-Asian hate crimes and harassment;

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and

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**WHEREAS,** in 2021, the Hmong Minnesotan story was on the world stage when St. Paul's

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very own, Sunisa Lee, won all-around gold in women's gymnastics at the Olympics in Tokyo,

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Japan; and

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**WHEREAS,** in 2021, despite the challenges the Hmong in Minnesota continue to be resilient

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and proud of their rich cultural heritage, celebrating their 6th annual Hmong Day celebration at the

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Minnesota State Fair with the theme that together, we are stronger, better, and safer; and

2.1           **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Senate of the State of Minnesota that it  
2.2 celebrates September 6, 2021, as Hmong Minnesota Day at the Minnesota State Fair.

2.3           **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Secretary of the Senate is directed to prepare an  
2.4 enrolled copy of this resolution, to be authenticated by the Secretary's signature and that of the  
2.5 Chair of the Senate Rules and Administration Committee, and transmit them to the State Fair's  
2.6 board of managers and Minnesota's Hmong American community.

Cal R. Ludeman  
Secretary of the Senate

Paul E. Gazelka  
Chair, Senate Committee on  
Rules and Administration

Foung Hawj  
State Senator, District 67