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State of Minnesota

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

NINETY-FIRST SESSION

H. F. No. 3750

02/24/2020

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Government Operations

- 1.1

A bill for an act
- 1.2

relating to state government; establishing Tamil Language and Heritage Month;
- 1.3

proposing coding for new law in Minnesota Statutes, chapter 10.
- 1.4

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:
- 1.5

Section 1. **[10.552] TAMIL LANGUAGE AND HERITAGE MONTH.**
- 1.6

(a) The month of January is designated Tamil Language and Heritage Month. Tamil is
- 1.7

the longest surviving classical language in the world, with a traceable history exceeding
- 1.8

2,600 years. Tamil is an official language in India, Sri Lanka, and Singapore and a minority
- 1.9

language in Malaysia, South Africa, Mauritius, and Canada. The Tamil community is
- 1.10

widespread, with about 90 million native speakers across the globe.
- 1.11

(b) The Tamil community of Minnesota has contributed significantly to bilingual literacy,
- 1.12

with Minnesota being the first state to achieve a bilingual seal for the Tamil language. The
- 1.13

Tamil community has established a self-sustaining literacy model for the Tamil language
- 1.14

and has made immense contributions to the diverse social, economic, and cultural fabric of
- 1.15

Minnesota life. The Tamil community is committed to sharing its vibrant culture and
- 1.16

traditions with the people of this state.
- 1.17

(c) The governor shall issue a proclamation declaring January as Tamil Language and
- 1.18

Heritage Month in Minnesota to celebrate and experience the rich history and inclusive
- 1.19

nature of Tamil heritage.