



**STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

Throughout our state's history, Texans with disabilities have demonstrated remarkable qualities of the Texas spirit: courage, independence and strength. It is no accident that eight Texas counties bear the names of extraordinary Texans with disabilities. From Erastus "Deaf" Smith, a scout who was instrumental in winning Texas' independence, to former Texas Senator and civil rights activist Barbara Jordan, Texans with disabilities have contributed much to the culture and quality of life in our state.

Furthermore, the story of the disability rights movement is a universal American story. It is also the story of Texas: an endeavor toward equal opportunity for all.

One important step toward full integration of Texans with disabilities is the recognition and celebration of the achievements of Texans with disabilities. Each year, October is recognized as Persons with Disabilities History and Awareness Month.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to learn more about the story of the disability rights movement as it takes its rightful place as part of the story of Texas. I am proud of the activity across our state commemorating this month and the motivating principle behind our celebrations: the recognition that Texas' finest resource is its people.

Therefore, I, Rick Perry, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim October 2012 to be

Persons with Disabilities History and Awareness Month

in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof,
I hereby affix my signature this the
24th day of September, 2012.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Perry".

Governor of Texas

