



**STATE OF TEXAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

Texas is an undisputed economic leader with a remarkable job creation record, providing opportunities for all to better themselves and their families. Our state is also home to a world-class workforce — one in which individuals with disabilities play a critical role.

The Lone Star State continues to benefit from an integrated workforce where people with and without disabilities work side by side. Businesses that hire, retain and include people with disabilities continue to discover that a strong workforce is an inclusive workforce. The perspective and creativity of people with disabilities benefit employers who acknowledge each person's unique strengths and talents. Employment also helps Texans with disabilities pursue their full potential for independence in their communities.

Each October, an awareness campaign is conducted to support equal employment opportunities for people with disabilities. The Governor's Committee on People with Disabilities also presents the annual Lex Frieden Employment Awards, named for the disability rights champion instrumental in the adoption of the Americans with Disabilities Act. These awards recognize businesses, individuals and organizations dedicated to maintaining an inclusive workforce. This year's recipients are Celia Hughes, Executive Director of VSA Texas, Austin; William Hernandez, owner of Per4max, Grand Prairie; AT&T, statewide offices and facilities; Applebee's Restaurant, San Antonio; Rockin' Tomato, Austin; University of Texas Southwest Medical Center, Dallas; and the Austin Mayor's Committee for People with Disabilities.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to recognize the strengths that people with disabilities can bring to our workforce, our community and our state as a whole.

Therefore, I, Rick Perry, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim October 2014 to be

**Disability Employment Awareness Month**



in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof,  
I hereby affix my signature this the  
17<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2014.

  
Governor of Texas