



**STATE OF TEXAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

All throughout our state's past you can find examples of Texans with disabilities who have left a lasting mark of greatness on the Lone Star State. That's because in Texas we know that it is not our challenges that define us, but rather how we rise above them.

Among those with disabilities, Texans who are deaf and hard of hearing have long been recognized for their contributions to our state. In fact, the 6<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature helped to ensure the support of this community with the establishment of the Texas School for the Deaf in 1856.

Each September, organizations across Texas set out to raise awareness of this special population of citizens and promote available resources for the educational needs of Texans who are deaf or hard of hearing.

I encourage all Texans to support and celebrate the many unique and individual achievements of all citizens of our communities, and especially at this time, to honor Texans who are deaf and hard of hearing. I thank the many professionals and educators dedicated to assisting their fellow Texans and for their contributions focused on the best for all deaf and hard of hearing in Texas. Working together, we are ensuring a brighter future for our state.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim September 18–23, 2017, to be

## **Deaf Awareness Week**



in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 20<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2017.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Greg Abbott". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Governor of Texas