

**STATE OF TEXAS**

**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

One of our greatest responsibilities as a state is ensuring that all Texans have the opportunity to live active, fruitful lives.  By supporting initiatives that promote safe mobility, we promote greater independence for Texans who are blind or visually impaired.

Texans who are blind play invaluable roles in the Lone Star State, and the white cane is an important tool and powerful symbol of self-reliance.  In addition to the white cane, service animals, public and private transportation programs and other initiatives ensure Texans who are blind or visually impaired can travel efficiently and break down barriers to success and independence.

In 1964, President Lyndon Baines Johnson proclaimed October 15 to be White Cane Safety Day.  In the Lone Star State, we also recognize this day as a time to celebrate the independence of Texans who are blind or visually impaired and honor their many contributions to our great state.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to learn more about blindness and recognize the many ways that Texans who are blind or visually impaired give back to their communities.  Supporting the efforts of our fellow Texans makes for a stronger Lone Star State.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim October 15, 2017, to be

**White Cane Day**

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| State Seal of Texas, shown with red and blue ribbons below | in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.  In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 11th day of October, 2017.  Greg Abbott  Governor of Texas |