A childhood illness left her deaf and blind, but the loss of sight and sound could not keep Helen Keller from achieving incredible things. With the support of her family and her teacher, Anne Sullivan, Ms. Keller grew from a child who could not communicate into a woman who read five languages, wrote books, gave speeches and even acted in a film. Helen Keller’s inspiring life and incredible personal gifts brought national awareness as she demonstrated that people with multisensory disabilities can lead full lives.

From the provision of employment-related assistance to the availability of supportive technological devices, significant progress has been made in ensuring that all Americans have the tools to realize their potential. Increasingly, today’s individuals who have dual sensory impairments have specially trained interveners and support service providers who supply the best possible opportunities for those with disabilities to communicate, access information and participate fully in their communities.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to participate in this DeafBlind awareness campaign by commemorating Helen Keller’s birth, acknowledging the many contributions of Texans who have disabilities and learning how best to offer support to Texans with multisensory disabilities. We all have important roles to play in building the Texas of tomorrow.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim June 2018 to be Helen Keller DeafBlind Awareness Month in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 12th day of June, 2018.

Governor of Texas