

STATE OF TEXAS OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

We are made infinitely stronger when every Texan has the opportunity to live an independent, self-directed life. Safe mobility is a critical piece of independence, which is why, every October, we celebrate White Cane Day. The white cane is an important tool which empowers Texans who are blind or visually impaired to move safely through their communities, providing a freedom that opens the door to more possibilities and even greater success.

While the white cane is a tool and symbol used for increasing mobility, there are a variety of federal, state, and local initiatives that also help to achieve greater mobility for Texans. Additionally, many Texans who are blind or visually impaired employ the use of service animals like guide dogs and utilize public and private transportation, all of which serve as additional aids to overcoming any barriers that stand in the way of achieving independence.

President Lyndon B. Johnson first declared October 15th to be White Cane Safety Day in 1964. Ever since, Texas has been proud to recognize this date as an opportunity to celebrate the many ways those who are blind or visually impaired make our state a better place to live. Through their resilience and commitment to bettering their lives and the communities in which they live, these Texans truly showcase the independent spirit and can-do attitude of the Lone Star State.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to learn more about blindness and visual impairment and how these challenges do not define the Texans who live with and overcome them. When we all have the opportunity to progress and fulfill our potential, the future of Texas shines brighter.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim October 13, 2021, to be

White Cane Day

in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 1st day of September, 2021.

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Governor of Texas