



**STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

Courage, independence, and ingenuity are hallmarks of the Texas spirit, and there are perhaps no finer exemplars of these values than people with disabilities. Despite the serious obstacles and challenges that their disabilities pose, these men and women lead vibrant, fulfilling lives as pillars of their communities across the state. Millions of people with disabilities throughout Texas serve as living proof that our circumstances need not define us. Indeed, a disability in no way diminishes a person's worth. As a just, civilized society, we must ensure that people with disabilities are fully integrated into their communities, and we have a collective responsibility to ensure that no disability impedes an individual's right to participate in the political process.

To a great extent, policies can determine whether people with disabilities are a part of society or apart from it. Civic engagement is therefore of the utmost importance for people with disabilities. With unique perspectives and highly individualized needs, for our democracy to function properly, their voice must be heard. At the local, state, and federal levels, policies affect the daily lives of those with disabilities in a direct, tangible manner. As such, they should strive to be engaged in the political process by staying informed, registering to vote, and exercising their God-given right to choose their leaders at the ballot box.

In September, a week is set aside to recognize Disability Voting Rights Week. At this time, I encourage all Texans to support the many dedicated groups that highlight the importance of voting for people with disabilities. Likewise, all Texans should learn more about voter registration laws and accommodations available to voters with disabilities, for we are a stronger state when all voices are heard within the democratic process.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim September 12–16, 2022, to be

Disability Voting Rights Week



in Texas and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof,
I hereby affix my signature this the
1st day of September, 2022.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Greg Abbott".

Governor of Texas