



STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Never before have our people led longer lives, and as such, older individuals constitute a large and rapidly growing segment of our population. Every day, hundreds of Texans celebrate their 65th birthday, and if current trends continue, the Lone Star State's 65-and-older population will exceed 11 million by 2030. Advanced age offers the priceless opportunity to spend more time with loved ones, but it also brings age-specific challenges requiring intergenerational effort.

To support older Texans effectively, we must first acknowledge the unique obstacles they face. In spite of their wisdom and experience, older Texans can encounter workplace discrimination, and the elderly are disproportionately affected by illness, injury, fraud, and theft. Additionally, advanced age can correlate with serious psychological and neurological conditions, such as anxiety, depression, and dementia.

These challenges, though certainly significant, need not rob older Texans of the comfort and security they so rightly deserve. Throughout the state, government entities—such as the Texas Health and Human Services Commission and its Aging and Disability Resource Center—strive to protect older Texans from harm, to provide them necessary services, and to advocate on their behalf. Private groups, including nonprofit organizations and church ministries, likewise work diligently to meet the physical, emotional, and spiritual needs of senior citizens.

The generations who came before us have built and sustained the Texas Miracle, and as members of a grateful state, we must care for our elders as best we can. If we are blessed with loved ones of advanced age, we ought to treasure our time with them and improve their quality of life however we can. Additionally, hospitals, churches, and assisted living facilities provide meaningful opportunities to serve meals, assist with daily tasks, and form social connections. These acts of kindness epitomize the very trait that gave Texas her name—Friendship—and they mean the world to elderly Texans.

Each year, the month of May is set aside to celebrate older Texans and to galvanize public support for them. These men and women have given us the strongest, freest, most prosperous state in the Union, and it is now up to us to show them that they are valued, respected, and loved. At this time, I encourage all Texans to cherish the older individuals in their lives and to care for them by any means possible.

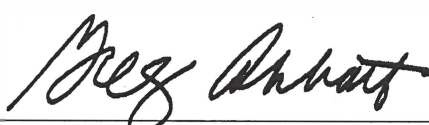
Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim May 2024 to be

Older Texans Month



in Texas and urge all Texans to observe the occasion with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto affixed my signature this the 10th day of April, 2024.


Governor of Texas