

STATE OF TEXAS OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Texas is proud to honor citizens who are deaf or hard of hearing throughout our state. Their stories and experiences have enriched our lives, and despite the difficulties they experience, they make the Lone Star State stronger and more welcoming.

In Texas, we know that it is not our challenges that define us, but rather how we rise above them. Leaders such as Erastus "Deaf" Smith, famed for his role in the Texas Revolution, have shaped our history. Many Texans who are deaf or hard of hearing have left a lasting mark on the Lone Star State. Resilient and resourceful, they display the indomitable spirit that make us famous throughout the world. These hardworking individuals provide health care services, educate and mentor our Texas schoolchildren, build and maintain our infrastructure, and play important roles in our booming economy.

Each September, organizations across Texas recognize Texans who are deaf or hard of hearing in order to promote available resources for these Texans.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to support and celebrate the many achievements of those who are deaf or hard of hearing. I thank all professionals and educators that continue to advance the success of the community. Together, we can ensure a better, brighter future for the Lone Star State.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim September 18 - 24, 2023, to be

Deaf Awareness Week



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 14th day of September, 2023.

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Governor of Texas