



STATE OF TEXAS  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Our state and nation are made stronger through the experiences and contributions of our citizens. The unique stories and upbringings of people who are deaf or hard of hearing benefit our understanding and have left a profound impact on the Lone Star State.

In Texas, we know that it is not our challenges that define us, but rather how we rise above them. The Lone Star State has been deeply enriched by deaf Texans such as notable deaf educator and athlete Ruth Seeger, who was a champion for girls' athletics at the Texas School for the Deaf, and Erastus "Deaf" Smith, who is legendary for his role in the Texas Revolution. Thriving despite their challenges, deaf Texans personify the famed indomitable spirit of generations of Texans. Whether they are in our hospitals, schools, or workforce, they all play a role in our society.

During Deaf Awareness Week and hereafter, I encourage all Texans to support and celebrate those who are deaf or hard of hearing. I commend the professionals, educators, and employers who continue to advance their interests. Together, we can build the Texas of Tomorrow.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim September 22 – 27, 2025 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 the 9th day of September, 2025.

A handwritten signature of Greg Abbott in black ink.

Governor of Texas