

STATE OF TEXAS OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Bravery, strength, and resilience defined the life of Helen Keller, who blazed new paths as history's most famous person with hearing and vision loss. Keller's impact on the deaf-blind community and the world around her cannot be overstated as she used her prodigious gifts to advocate for people with disabilities.

Having lost her sight and hearing as a toddler, Keller developed her own signs with the support of her teacher, Anne Sullivan. Their work has helped many overcome the communication barriers posed by combined vision and hearing loss.

The Lone Star State has long sought to ensure that those who are deaf-blind have the tools they need to realize their full potential, such as supportive communication technology, housing and recreation options, and employment opportunities. Texas has made significant progress to this end, but the work is unfinished.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to observe Deaf-Blind Awareness Week by celebrating the determined spirit exemplified by Helen Keller, acknowledging the many contributions of Texans who are deaf-blind, and learning how to support them. These efforts are essential as we work together to secure the Texas of tomorrow.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim June 25 – July 1, 2023, to be

Helen Keller Deaf-Blind Awareness Week



in Texas and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 21st day of June, 2023.

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Governor of Texas