



**STATE OF TEXAS**  
**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

Traumatic brain injuries (TBI) are one of the most commonly occurring yet least talked about public health issues in Texas. Every year, an average of 144,000 Texans are affected by TBIs, which are often caused by falls, impacts to the head, or another penetrating injury to the head that temporarily or permanently disrupts the normal functions of the brain. Affected patients are left to navigate the long-term effects of these injuries, which often result in life-long disabilities. From relatively mild injuries like concussions to more severe injuries which may cause extended periods of unconsciousness or amnesia, the seriousness of TBIs is far-ranging, and their impact can be devastating.

TBIs also have lasting effects on the lives of our courageous service members and veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces. For veterans, these injuries often lead to significant mental health concerns, including post-traumatic stress disorder, depression, anxiety, chronic pain, and thoughts of suicide. We can help our veterans, and the many other Texans who suffer from TBIs, by continuing to raise awareness, promoting the many treatment and support options available, and empowering patients and their caregivers.

Various treatment options, including neuro-rehabilitation and other similar therapies, help those in our communities recover from brain injuries and live their lives to their fullest potential. Texas also offers quality support systems and services to those impacted by or recovering from a TBI, including the Office of Acquired Brain Injury and the Comprehensive Rehabilitation Program at the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, as well as the Vocational Rehabilitation Program at the Texas Workforce Commission.

Annually, an awareness campaign is conducted during the month of March to inform the public about the effects of TBIs, promote research on prevention and treatment, and provide support to patients, caregivers, and families across the state who are affected by brain injuries.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to learn more about TBIs and extend their support, compassion, and prayers to Texans impacted by these injuries. Together, we can create better outcomes and brighter futures for Texans in need of our support.

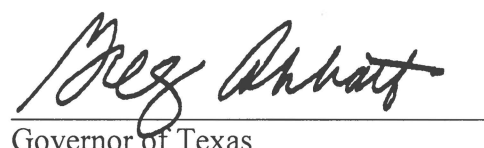
Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim March 2022 to be

## **Brain Injury Awareness Month**



in Texas and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof,  
I hereby affix my signature this the  
16<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2022.

  
Governor of Texas