



**STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

Ours is a nation founded on a simple, timeless principle: that each of us, without exception, is endowed with inestimable, irrevocable worth on the basis of our humanity. Sexual assault therefore stands as a monstrous affront to the dignity of the human spirit, and it has no place in the Lone Star State. On an annual basis, hundreds of thousands of Americans are sexually assaulted, and every instance leaves in its wake survivors severely scarred and families forever altered. As members of a just, civilized society, the duty now befalls each one of us to stand with sexual assault survivors and to build a world in which no man, woman, or child knows the trauma of sexual assault.

To this end, dedicated professionals and concerned citizens from the Panhandle to the Gulf Coast have long labored as one to prevent these horrific crimes, assist law enforcement officers, aid prosecutors, educate judges, and support survivors. By so doing, they pave the way for meaningful progress and lead us ever closer to the day when sexual assault is relegated to the past.

Guided by a desire to right the wrongs of this world, the State of Texas has exerted serious, sustained effort to prevent these tragedies, to prosecute offenders, and to provide hope to survivors as they reclaim their identity and rebuild their life. I applaud the many advocates, public servants, and government entities—such as the Sexual Assault Survivors' Task Force within the Office of the Governor—that advance the interests of justice.

In recent years, we have witnessed a groundswell of support for survivors and an open, unflinching dialogue about this difficult subject. The sweeping, bipartisan support of sexual assault awareness and prevention is driven by empathy and good will toward our fellow man, and it relies on the voices and stories of courageous survivors.

Each year, a month is set aside to shed light on the struggles that sexual assault survivors face, on their inspiring resilience, and on the need for continued work. Ultimately, if we are to honor survivors, we must advocate for them and support the many individuals and organizations that work to prevent these crimes.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to join me in the ongoing movement to prevent sexual assault. Our people have long been defined by a desire to help those in need, and we must embrace this spirit and press onward to a brighter tomorrow free from sexual assault. There has never been a challenge that the sons and daughters of Texas could not overcome, and by working together, we can affirm the worth and dignity of the most vulnerable, facilitate healing for survivors, and bring offenders to justice.


Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim April 2023 to be

Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month



in Texas and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof,
I hereby affix my signature this the
24th day of March, 2023.


Governor of Texas