

# National Long-Term Care Residents' Rights Month 2014 Proclamation

## Better Staffing: The Key to Better Care

**Whereas**, there are more than 1.6 million individuals living in 16,000 nursing homes; and 1 million individuals living in 50,000 board and care/assisted living facilities in the U.S.; and

**Whereas**, the federal Nursing Home Reform Act of 1987 guarantees residents their individual rights in order to promote and maintain their dignity and autonomy; and

**Whereas**, all residents should be aware of their rights so they may be empowered to live with dignity and self-determination; and

**Whereas**, we wish to honor and celebrate these citizens, to recognize their rich individuality, and to encourage residents and others to be educated about staffing and long-term care; and

**Whereas**, individuals and groups across the country will be celebrating Residents' Rights Month with the theme –“Better Staffing: The Key to Better Care”– to emphasize the importance of affirming these rights through facility practices, public policy and resident-centered decision-making.

**Now, therefore, I**, \_\_\_\_\_, Mayor of the City of \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby proclaim October 2014 as **National Long-Term Care Residents' Rights Month**, in the City of \_\_\_\_\_, and encourage all citizens to join me in these important observances.

Signed this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 2014

\_\_\_\_\_, Mayor