

National Long-Term Care Residents' Rights Month 2016 Proclamation

My Vote Matters

Whereas, there are more than 1.5 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 reaffirm their right to vote and participate politically, including the right to have a say in their care; and

Whereas, individuals and groups across the country will be celebrating Residents' Rights Month with the theme – My Vote Matters - to emphasize the importance of affirming these rights through facility practices, public policy and resident-centered decision-making.

Now, therefore, I, _____, Governor of the State of _____, do hereby proclaim October 2016 as **National Long-Term Care Residents' Rights Month**, in the State of _____, and encourage all citizens to join me in these important observances.

Signed this ____ day of _____ 2016

_____, Governor