

# National Long-Term Care Residents' Rights Month 2016 Proclamation

## My Vote Matters

**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 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**, \_\_\_\_\_, Mayor of the City of \_\_\_\_\_, do hereby proclaim October 2016 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 \_\_\_\_\_ 2016

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