

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

FALL PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK SEPTEMBER 18 - 24, 2016

- WHEREAS,** *Maryland is home to an estimated 846,902 citizens over the age of 65, comprising 14 percent of our state's population in 2015; and*
- WHEREAS,** *It is estimated that across the country one-third of people over the age of 65, and half over the age of 80 will fall each year; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Falls are the leading cause of injury-related emergency room visits and hospital admissions among Marylanders age 65 and older, resulting in approximately 273 million dollars in medical charges in 2014; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Falls were the leading cause of injury-related deaths among Marylanders over the age of 65 in 2014; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Injuries from falls are largely preventable; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The quality of life is improved for Maryland citizens who remain independent, active, and free from fall-related injuries.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim September 18 - 24, 2016 as **FALL PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK** in Maryland, and do call upon all citizens to join in supporting this observance.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 18th day of September
Two Thousand and sixteen

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor

Robert K. Lutherford
Lt. Governor

John C. Wilkerson
Secretary of State