

# The State of Maryland



## Proclamation

*From the Governor of the State of Maryland*

**NATIONAL DEAF HISTORY MONTH  
APRIL 1 - 30, 2022**

- WHEREAS,** *Maryland has a large and vibrant Deaf and hard of hearing community; and*
- WHEREAS,** *It is important that we as Marylanders work together to ensure that those who are Deaf and hard of hearing have equal and full access to resources, services and opportunities for participation in all aspects of community life; and*
- WHEREAS,** *We believe in a Maryland which recognizes the unlimited potential for all our citizens, including those who are Deaf and hard of hearing, to live, work, and thrive in our communities, and honor the contributions made for and by Deaf and hard of hearing community over the last 200 years; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Maryland is home to the oldest civil rights organization in the nation, the National Association of the Deaf, as well as numerous other national and state organizations serving Deaf and hard of hearing individuals such as the Hearing Loss Association of America, the Maryland Association of the Deaf. Maryland encourages continued education for the citizens of Maryland about the rights, values, and contributions of Deaf and hard of hearing citizens; and*
- WHEREAS,** *The State takes necessary action to support the Deaf and hard of hearing community as evidenced by the recognition of the State's top performance in equitable access to services during COVID-19 pandemic by the Health Signs Center's nationwide survey and the twentieth anniversary of the Governor's Office of Deaf and Hard of Hearing; and*
- WHEREAS,** *For the last 32 years, the Americans with Disabilities Act has sought to ensure that Deaf and hard of hearing individuals are respected as equal citizens with equal opportunities to access inclusive education, achieve gainful employment and fully participate in the recreational, leisure and social activities of our communities, all free from discrimination; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Individuals who are Deaf and hard of hearing are respected and valued members of our communities and serve as teachers educating our children, brewmasters producing beer, business owners serving customers, and nurses helping our sick and everyday citizens, sharing their experiences, perspectives and abilities in furtherance of the Deaf Ecosystem.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim APRIL 1 - 30, 2022 as NATIONAL DEAF HISTORY MONTH in Maryland, and do commend this observance to all of our citizens and encourage them to participate and promote events throughout the month which celebrates the rights and achievements of Deaf and hard of hearing communities.**

Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,  
this 1st day of April  
Two Thousand and twenty-two

Governor

Lt. Governor

Secretary of State

