



**STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

People with visual impairment or blindness often experience difficulties where mobility and accessibility are limited as they pursue happiness and fulfillment. While people who are sighted often take mobility for granted, challenges exist for the blind as they navigate the world around them. As a just and compassionate society, we must strive to ensure that all citizens are as fully integrated into their communities as possible. In Texas, we know that it is not our challenges that define us, but rather how we rise above them, and a simple white cane can dramatically improve the ability of those who are blind to use public spaces safely and participate in society more fully.

First introduced in 1931, the standardized white cane is a useful tool and an empowering symbol. This specific cane readily identifies its user as a blind person, and states throughout the nation require drivers and pedestrians to exercise heightened caution around people using a white cane. Through this law, a white cane offers substantial protection and thus enables the blind to make their way in the world safely and securely. The white cane has become a powerful symbol of freedom and independence for the blind.

The disability rights movement made tremendous headway in pursuit of equality, especially in recent years. The white cane showcases both positive change and a belief that more can be achieved. We must ensure that no disability has the final say in Texans' lives. During White Cane Day and throughout the year, we can all support the civic groups and government entities that advocate for those who are blind and visually impaired. By so doing, we will bring about a stronger, fairer, freer tomorrow in which every Texan can take a rightful place in the larger story of our great state.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to learn more about the challenges that the blind and visually impaired face. Texas is at its best when everyone can contribute, and we must ensure the safety and security represented by the white cane.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim October 15, 2025 to be

White Cane Day



in Texas and urge all Texans to observe the occasion with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto affixed my signature this the 9th day of September, 2025.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Greg Abbott".

Governor of Texas