



STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

DeafBlind Texans and individuals across our nation demonstrate remarkable determination, resilience, and perseverance each day. Their achievements, contributions, and experiences serve as a powerful reminder of the strength of the human spirit and inspire us to continue building a more accessible and inclusive society for all.

Today, thousands of Texans live with combined hearing and vision loss, a condition that presents unique challenges in communication, education, employment, and daily life. Thanks to advances in assistive technology, specialized educational resources, and dedicated advocacy efforts, DeafBlind individuals have greater opportunities than ever before to live independently, pursue meaningful careers, and participate fully in their communities. Innovative tactile communication systems, refreshable braille technology, navigation tools, and other emerging resources continue to expand access and opportunity.

Our lives are not defined by the obstacles we face, and few individuals exemplify this truth more profoundly than Helen Keller. Deaf and blind from an early age, she accomplished what many once believed impossible, becoming a celebrated author, educator, advocate, and humanitarian. Through her intellect, determination, and unwavering spirit, she challenged societal assumptions and demonstrated that human potential knows no sensory boundaries. Her enduring legacy continues to inspire efforts to expand educational opportunities, increase accessibility, and promote full inclusion for people with disabilities.

While significant progress has been made, important work remains. Continued awareness, advocacy, and investment are essential to ensuring that DeafBlind individuals can thrive and reach their fullest potential. Across Texas, educators, interveners, service providers, families, self-advocates, and volunteers work tirelessly to foster independence, expand opportunities, and strengthen support systems. Their dedication reflects some of our state's highest values: compassion, perseverance, and respect for the inherent dignity of every person.

Each year, the week of Helen Keller's birthday is observed to raise awareness of the DeafBlind community and to recognize those who champion greater accessibility and opportunity. During this observance and throughout the year, may we renew our commitment to creating a Texas where every individual has the opportunity to succeed. I encourage all Texans to learn more about the DeafBlind community, support efforts to increase accessibility, and help ensure that every citizen can fully participate in the offerings of our great state.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim June 25 – July 1, 2026, to be

DeafBlind Awareness Week



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 4th day of June, 2026.

A handwritten signature of Greg Abbott in black ink.

Governor of Texas