



STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

People who experience visual impairment or blindness often encounter difficulties where mobility and accessibility are limited, and daily challenges exist for them as they navigate the world. Our society has an obligation 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.

Introduced in 1931, the standardized white cane, a valuable tool and an empowering symbol, readily identifies its user as a blind person. Accordingly, states throughout the nation require drivers and pedestrians to exercise heightened caution around people using a white cane. Through this law, a white cane provides protection and enables the visually impaired and blind to make their way in the world more safely and securely.

The white cane has become a powerful symbol of freedom and independence for the blind, showcasing both positive change and a belief that more can be achieved. 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 visually impaired and blind face and about how to conduct ourselves in a respectful, safe way around them. 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, 2026, 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 18th day of September, 2026.

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

Governor of Texas