

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

**FALLS PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK
SEPTEMBER 19 - 23, 2022**

- WHEREAS,** *Maryland is home to an estimated 1,004,916 citizens over the age of 65, comprising 16.3 percent of our State's population in 2021; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Between 2010-2019, the age-adjusted death rate due to falls among older adults age 65 years and older in Maryland increased from 52.32 per 100,000 in 2010, to 75.69 per 100,000 in 2020, a 1.4 fold increase; and*
- WHEREAS,** *From June 2020 to May 2021, falls were the etiology of injury for 45.4% of Maryland trauma center primary admissions, up from 43.3% in the year prior; and*
- WHEREAS,** *In 2018, an estimated 201,093 Maryland adults over the age of 65 reported having fallen in the past 12 months; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Of the injury mechanisms examined, falls represented 50.7% of injury-related deaths among Marylanders over the age of 65 in 2020, making them the leading cause of injury-related deaths; 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 19 - 23, 2022 as FALLS PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK in Maryland, and encourage all citizens to help reduce the number of injuries associated with falls by recognizing and resolving hazardous environments for Maryland seniors.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,
this 19th day of September
Two Thousand and twenty-two

L. J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor

Byrd K. Lathrop
Lt. Governor

John C. W. W. W.
Secretary of State