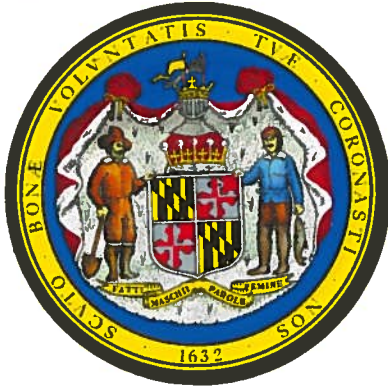


# The State of Maryland



## Proclamation

*From the Governor of the State of Maryland*

### FALLS PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK SEPTEMBER 21 - 25, 2020

- WHEREAS,** *Maryland is home to an estimated 931,136 citizens over the age of 65, comprising 15.4 percent of our State's population in 2018; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Between 2010-2018, 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 68.52 per 100,000 in 2018, a 1.3 fold increase; and*
- WHEREAS,** *From June 2017 to May 2018, falls were the etiology of injury for 37.4% of Maryland trauma center primary admissions, up from 35.9% 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 were the leading cause of injury-related deaths among Marylanders over the age of 65 in 2018; 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 21 - 25, 2020 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 21<sup>st</sup> day of September  
Two Thousand and twenty

*Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.*  
Governor

*Byrd H. Lathrop*  
Lt. Governor

*John C. Womack*  
Secretary of State