

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

FALLS PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK SEPTEMBER 20 - 24, 2021

- WHEREAS,** *Maryland is home to an estimated 931,263 citizens over the age of 65, comprising 15.9 percent of our State's population in 2018; 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 73.63 per 100,000 in 2019, a 1.4 fold increase; and*
- WHEREAS,** *From June 2019 to May 2020, falls were the etiology of injury for 43.0% of Maryland trauma center primary admissions, up from 38.4% 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 52.5% of injury-related deaths among Marylanders over the age of 65 in 2019, 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 20 - 24, 2021 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 20th day of September
Two Thousand and twenty-one

Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.
Governor

Robert K. Lutherford
Lt. Governor

John C. Wetherell
Secretary of State