

## STATE OF TEXAS OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

The heinous crime of sexual assault affects people in all walks of life. Survivors of sexual violence are often left with severe emotional scars and profound trauma that can have a destructive effect on the lives of their families and friends. As Texans, and as members of a caring and just society, we must embrace the right of all citizens to live safely and securely. With that goal in mind, professionals and volunteers across Texas remain committed to invaluable work in crime prevention, law enforcement, and survivor support, helping to create a safer future for all Texans.

In 2019, the 86th Texas Legislature passed House Bill 2298, which established January 28 as Sexual Assault Survivors Day in order to bring awareness to the issue of sexual violence and to recognize the bravery of survivors throughout Texas. Our state is extremely grateful for the dedicated work of courageous survivors who boldly share their stories and lend their voices to this cause, as well as for the many advocates, law enforcement officers, prosecutors, judges, and organizations like the Governor's Sexual Assault Survivors' Task Force, who continue to fight for the safety and security of all Texans. In an effort to remain vigilant and stand in solidarity with survivors, we must continue to bring awareness to sexual violence and its harmful effects and advocate on behalf of all victims and survivors of this despicable crime.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to join me in renewing our commitment to ending sexual violence and empowering survivors to receive the support they need to heal. Texans are not overcome when faced with adversity, and by working together, we can protect the vulnerable, bring offenders to justice, and ensure a brighter future for all who call the Lone Star State home.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim January 28, 2022, to be

## Sexual Assault Survivors Day

in Texas and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 28th day of January, 2022.

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