



**STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

Our state and nation rely heavily on the internet to function in our day-to-day lives. More than ever, we have depended on virtual connections to conduct work, engage with our community, and foster educational opportunities. Technology is crucial to our telecommunications industry, transportation infrastructure, financial services, retail, health care, and emergency response systems, and allows us to stay connected to loved ones near and far.

Unfortunately, the last year saw a marked increase in cyber threats in the public and private sectors. Our reliance on the internet reminds us that cybersecurity is a shared responsibility in order to combat a growing threat of malicious attacks from viruses, ransomware, spyware and adware intrusions used by bad actors to damage our way of life. Cybersecurity is a critical challenge for all public and private sector organizations, and we must remain vigilant to protect ourselves, our families, and our livelihoods.

Each October, an awareness campaign is conducted to promote simple, measurable steps all Americans should take to change their behavior and protect themselves online. Citizens, businesses, governments, and schools all have a vital role to play in improving our nation's collective cybersecurity preparedness. Awareness of essential cybersecurity measures will improve the overall security of Texas' information systems, infrastructure, and economy, and increase our ability to stay connected safely. By utilizing these safe practices together, we can build a safer and more secure Texas of tomorrow.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to keep their personal information secure and be aware of current online fraud schemes and other basics of cybersecurity.


Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim October 2021 to be

Cybersecurity Awareness Month



in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 13th day of September, 2021.


Governor of Texas