



John Bel Edwards  
GOVERNOR

## Proclamation

- WHEREAS,** developmental disabilities manifest during the developmental years of life, before age 22, and are lifelong in duration, resulting in continued need for a variety of services designed to support full inclusion in community and life; and
- WHEREAS,** disability is a natural part of the human experience that does not diminish the right of individuals with developmental disabilities to live independently, to exert control and choice over their own lives and to fully participate in and contribute to their communities through full integration and inclusion in the economic, political, social, cultural and educational mainstream of United States society; and
- WHEREAS,** every person, regardless of their ability, has valued strengths, a capacity to learn and the potential to make important contributions to their local communities; and
- WHEREAS,** celebrating the abilities and contributions of people with developmental disabilities can only serve to enrich the communities of Louisiana and enhance our diversity; and
- WHEREAS,** we join with the Louisiana Developmental Disabilities Council during the month of March to encourage all citizens to recognize Louisiana's advances concerning persons with developmental disabilities, and also to acknowledge that our work to ensure full inclusion and integrated communities is not yet done.
- NOW, THEREFORE,** I, John Bel Edwards, Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim March 2019 as

**DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES AWARENESS MONTH**  
in the State of Louisiana.



*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand  
officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the  
State of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of  
Baton Rouge, on this 1st day of March  
A. D. 2019.*

  
Governor of Louisiana