



**STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

In bygone days, the internet was perhaps a luxury, but in our increasingly interconnected world, it is now a necessity. Indeed, the internet has become an integral aspect of modern life. Today, commerce, education, social interaction, and civic engagement are all deeply integrated into the digital landscape. The internet, which places the vastness of human knowledge quite literally at our fingertips, is no doubt a cornerstone of modern society. To this end, key pillars of contemporary infrastructure—including telecommunications, financial services, health care, and emergency management—depend upon the internet, and, as such, our society could not function properly without it.

While great advancements bring with them great challenges, the internet likewise can further the interests of dishonest, prurient, and unscrupulous individuals. In both the public and private sectors, honest, hard-working men and women have fallen prey to online crimes. The internet, though, is a double-edged sword, for although it provides criminals the tools to harm us, it also provides us the tools to protect ourselves. Through education and implementation of best practices, we can all enhance our cybersecurity and defend ourselves from the dangers lurking on the web. Since interconnectivity is a defining feature of the internet, cybersecurity must be a collective endeavor, a shared responsibility that we must take seriously if we are to protect ourselves, our families, and our way of life.

Each October, we bring awareness to the simple, actionable steps that all Texans can take to protect themselves online. Citizens, businesses, schools, and governments all have a vital role to play in improving our collective cybersecurity. Heightened awareness of essential cybersecurity measures will protect Texas' information systems, infrastructure, and economy and will increase our ability to stay connected safely.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to educate themselves on the fundamentals of cybersecurity and online crime so that we can ward off those who would do us harm. By taking small steps toward a safer cyberspace today, we can forge a first-rate future for the Lone Star State.


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

Cybersecurity Awareness Month



in Texas and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 26th day of August, 2022.


Governor of Texas