



COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

PROCLAMATION

**BETTER SPEECH-HEARING-LANGUAGE MONTH
May 2018**

WHEREAS, more than 42 million people in the United States – one in ten families – have hearing, speech, or language impairments; and

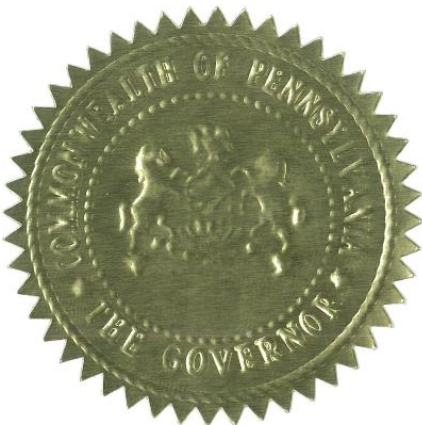
WHEREAS, most people with communicative disorders can be helped through medical and surgical treatment, hearing aids, and hearing and speech rehabilitation; and

WHEREAS, the health care costs for therapy, devices, and medical care, plus the indirect costs of income lost for people with communicative disorders, are estimated at more than \$30 billion per year; and

WHEREAS, hearing loss often can be prevented or mitigated through public awareness, early detection, and medical intervention. Other remedies include technology and education for communication access; and

WHEREAS, by raising awareness of communication disorders and the critical need for early professional intervention, we underscore this year's theme, "Communication Takes Care."

THEREFORE, in recognition of those who live with communication disorders, their families, advocates, and medical and therapeutic professionals, I, Tom Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim May 2018 as BETTER SPEECH-HEARING-LANGUAGE MONTH. I encourage all Pennsylvanians to join in the effort to promote public awareness and understanding regarding effective communication techniques.



GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, this thirteenth day of March two thousand eighteen, the year of the commonwealth the two hundred forty-second.

Tom Wolf
TOM WOLF
Governor