

State of Iowa Executive Department

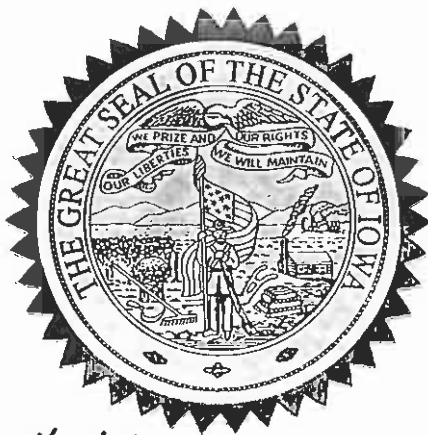
IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF IOWA

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS,** direct support professionals, direct care workers, personal assistants, personal attendants, in-home support workers, and paraprofessionals are the primary providers of publicly-funded long term supports and services for millions of individuals; and
- WHEREAS,** direct support professionals must build close, trusted relationships with individuals with disabilities and assist them with the most intimate needs, on a daily basis, such as preparation of meals, helping with medications, bathing, dressing, mobility, getting to school, work, religious, and recreational activities, and general daily affairs; and
- WHEREAS,** direct support professionals provide essential support to help keep individuals with disabilities connected to their families and communities; and
- WHEREAS,** Federal and State policies, as well as the Supreme Court, assert the right of an individual to live in the home and community of the individual's choice; and
- WHEREAS,** there is a documented critical and growing shortage of direct support professionals throughout the United States; and
- WHEREAS,** many direct support professionals leave their jobs to pursue other opportunities, creating high turnover and vacancy rates that research demonstrates adversely affects the quality of supports to individuals with disabilities; and
- WHEREAS,** the role of direct support professionals is vital in enhancing the lives of individuals with disabilities of all ages and in supporting needs that reach beyond the capacities of millions of families in the United States:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Terry E. Branstad, Governor of the State of Iowa, do hereby proclaim the week of September 7-13, 2014, as

DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION WEEK



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I HAVE HERETO SUBSCRIBED MY NAME AND CAUSED THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF IOWA TO BE AFFIXED. DONE AT DES MOINES THIS 5th DAY OF AUGUST IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND FOURTEEN.

TERRY E. BRANSTAD
GOVERNOR OF IOWA

ATTEST:

MATT SCHULTZ
SECRETARY OF STATE