

STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

Office of the Governor



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, direct care workers, personal assistants, personal attendants, in-home support workers and paraprofessionals (commonly referred to as "direct support professionals") are the primary providers of publicly-funded long term support and services for millions of individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals must build close, respectful and trusted relationships with individuals with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals empower people with disabilities to fully participate in their communities; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals provide intimate personal care assistance to people on a daily basis; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals provide essential support to help keep individuals with disabilities connected to their family, friends and community; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals support individuals with disabilities in making choices that lead to meaningful, productive lives; and

WHEREAS, the participation of direct support professionals in medical care planning is critical to the successful transition from medical events to post-acute care and long term supports and services; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals are a critical element in supporting persons who are receiving health care services for severe chronic health conditions or with functional limitations; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, many direct support professionals are employed in home and community-based settings, and this trend is projected to increase over the decade:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Governor Phil Bryant, Governor of the State of Mississippi, hereby proclaim the week beginning September 7, 2014, as

MISSISSIPPI DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS RECOGNITION WEEK

to recognize the dedication and vital role of direct support professionals in enhancing the lives of individuals with disabilities of all ages and their families.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Mississippi to be affixed.

DONE in the City of Jackson, on the fifth day of August in the year of our Lord, two thousand and fourteen and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-ninth.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Phil Bryant".

PHIL BRYANT
GOVERNOR

