

STATE OF OREGON
PROCLAMATION
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

- WHEREAS:** An estimated 24,701 Oregonians may experience a developmental disability and benefit from assistance from others to live full and productive lives; and
- WHEREAS:** Approximately 14,000 Oregonians are employed as direct support professionals, a job requiring a high level of skill and training, and provide the support needed so individuals with developmental disabilities can live, work and play in their community; and
- WHEREAS:** Direct support professionals working throughout Oregon empower people with disabilities to fully participate in their communities by assisting with employment, education, socialization and daily care; and
- WHEREAS:** Direct support professionals must build close, respectful and trusted relationships with those whom they work, requiring the utmost in ethical standards, trust and respect; and
- WHEREAS:** Direct support professionals often assist people with intimate personal care assistance on a daily basis; and
- WHEREAS:** In 2017, the majority of direct support professionals are employed in home and community-based settings in every county across Oregon, and this trend is projected to increase over the decade; and
- WHEREAS:** A critical shortage of direct support professionals throughout Oregon, with some forced to leave jobs due to inadequate wages, benefits and limited opportunities for advancement, adversely affects the quality of support, safety and health of individuals with disabilities.

NOW,

THEREFORE: I, Kate Brown, Governor of the State of Oregon, hereby proclaim **September 10-16, 2017** to be,

OREGON DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION WEEK

in Oregon and encourage all Oregonians to join in this observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Great Seal of the State of Oregon to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Salem in the State of Oregon on this day, August 31, 2017.



Kate Brown
Kate Brown, Governor

Dennis Richardson
Dennis Richardson, Secretary of State