The State of Maryland

Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

FALL PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK
SEPTEMBER 18 - 24, 2016

WHEREAS, *Maryland is home to an estimated 846,902 citizens over the age of 65, comprising 14 percent of our state's population in 2015; and*

WHEREAS, *It is estimated that across the country one-third of people over the age of 65, and half over the age of 80 will fall each year; and*

WHEREAS, *Falls are the leading cause of injury-related emergency room visits and hospital admissions among Marylanders age 65 and older, resulting in approximately 273 million dollars in medical charges in 2014; and*

WHEREAS, *Falls were the leading cause of injury-related deaths among Marylanders over the age of 65 in 2014; and*

WHEREAS, *Injuries from falls are largely preventable; and*

WHEREAS, *The quality of life is improved for Maryland citizens who remain independent, active, and free from fall-related injuries.*

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim September 18 - 24, 2016 as FALL PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK in Maryland, and do call upon all citizens to join in supporting this observance.

Given *Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,*
this 18th *day of* September
Two Thousand and sixteen

Governor

Lt. Governor

Secretary of State