

# COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA



## PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania has a proud and distinguished history of protecting the rights of individuals with disabilities through such laws as the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act and the Universal Accessibility Act, as amended, December 20, 1988; and

WHEREAS, our state has increased opportunities for competitive, integrated employment for Pennsylvanians with disabilities through an "Employment First" executive order and legislation; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth continues to improve the accessibility of its digital content through updated policies and standards, education and training for employees, testing and validation of digital assets, procurement and other dimensions; and

WHEREAS, approximately fourteen percent of Pennsylvanians have one or more disabilities affecting their vision, hearing, cognition, movement, self-care, or independent living; and

WHEREAS, Pennsylvanians increasingly rely upon digital technology for employment, education, entertainment, commerce, healthcare, and other services; and

WHEREAS, technology enables our communities to connect to critical government services through websites, applications, and other digital content; and

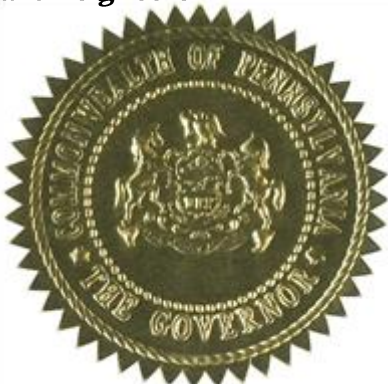
WHEREAS, accessible technology benefits everyone with digital content that is easier to read, applications that are simpler to navigate, improved search results, and reaches a wider audience; and

WHEREAS, creating accessible digital content and services is a shared responsibility in which every Pennsylvanian has a role to play.

THEREFORE, I, Josh Shapiro, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim May 16, 2024 as

### GLOBAL ACCESIBILITY AWARENESS DAY

and encourage all Pennsylvanians to support the many ways we can enhance the accessibility of digital content and contribute to the health, happiness, and independence of our family, friends, and neighbors.



GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, this twelfth day of April two thousand twenty-four, the year of the Commonwealth the two hundred forty-eighth.

Governor Josh Shapiro