STATE OF TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Texas has more natural disasters than any other state. This year alone, Texas has endured four major disasters and could equal or surpass the 1979 record, when five major disasters occurred in a single year. Particularly disturbing is the tragic loss of life that so often is associated with disasters.

Destructive events such as hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, wildfires, droughts, pandemics, acts of terrorism and cyberattacks can occur with little if any warning. In each of these circumstances, preparedness is the key to being ready to face threats and reduce the loss of life and property.

Preparedness responsibilities are shared by all Texans. Families can help minimize the impact of disasters and emergencies by preparing themselves, their family members and their communities for the unpredictable nature of these incidents.

All Texans are encouraged to develop and practice emergency plans that include a communications strategy and emergency meeting locations. Everyone should build a three-day disaster preparedness kit for homes and vehicles. These kits should contain supplies of food, water, medicine and important documents along with other essential items. Special preparedness considerations and steps should be taken for young children, seniors, those with access and functional needs, those with medical devices and family pets.

At this time, I urge all Texans to remain mindful of the dangers presented by natural and man-made disasters. Potential threats may change rapidly, therefore, it is important to stay informed and follow instructions from local officials and emergency management personnel. Together, we stand ready.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim September 2016, to be

Preparedness Month

in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof,
I hereby affix my signature this the
19th day of August, 2016.

Greg Abbott

Governor of Texas