We increasingly rely on the Internet in every facet of our lives. Individuals and businesses use the Internet every day to communicate, manage finances, enhance education, and conduct business. Now more than ever, as we continue to be affected by the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), technology is crucial to our telecommunications, transportation, financial services, retail, health care, and emergency response systems, and allows us to stay connected to loved ones near and far.

Unfortunately, Internet users and the information infrastructure they rely on for many day-to-day needs face a growing threat from malicious attacks by viruses and ransomware, as well as the loss of privacy from spyware and adware intrusions. All Internet users must stay vigilant against criminals who would commit identity theft and fraud online.

Each October, an awareness campaign is conducted to promote safe habits among Internet users. Maintaining the security of cyberspace is a shared responsibility in which each of us has a critical role to play. If we all do our part to raise awareness regarding the importance of cybersecurity, we will improve the overall security of Texas' information, infrastructure, and economy, and improve our ability to stay connected safely.

At this time, I encourage all Texans to keep their personal information secure and be aware of current online fraud schemes and other basics of cybersecurity.

Therefore, I, Greg Abbott, Governor of Texas, do hereby proclaim October 2020 to be

**Cybersecurity Awareness Month**

in Texas, and urge the appropriate recognition whereof.

In official recognition whereof, I hereby affix my signature this the 14th day of September, 2020.

/Greg Abbott/
Governor of Texas
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