



By His Excellency Ned Lamont, Governor: an  
**Official Statement**

*W*HEREAS, since 1964, our Nation has set aside one day each year to honor the achievements of people who are blind or visually impaired – and once again this year, Connecticut joins in that tradition of highlighting the important contributions they make to the success of our state and our society; and

*W*HEREAS, Connecticut's citizens who are blind or visually impaired enrich our cities, towns, and neighborhoods and play a key role in the rich economic and social fabric of our state; and

*W*HEREAS, our government and people are committed to equal access and equal opportunity for all of its citizens, including people with blindness or visual impairments; and

*W*HEREAS, Connecticut law encourages employers, in both the public and private sector, to fully recognize the capabilities, skills, and potential of Connecticut's citizens who are blind or visually impaired; and

*W*HEREAS, we call on all of Connecticut's citizens to help ensure that persons with blindness can live independently and compete in the marketplace; and

*W*HEREAS, Connecticut state law establishes the right of persons with blindness to carry and use a white cane or use a guide dog along our streets and roads, in residential settings, on public transportation, in public accommodations, and in the workplace; and

*W*HEREAS, October 15<sup>th</sup> was declared by Congress and the President in 1964 as a day of recognition for individuals with blindness – by establishing White Cane Safety Day, now known as Blind Americans Equality Day, across the United States; now

*T*HEREFORE, I, Ned Lamont, Governor of the State of Connecticut – in celebration of all of Connecticut's citizens with blindness, and in honor of their many accomplishments – do hereby officially proclaim the day of Saturday, October 15, 2022, to be

**BLIND AMERICANS EQUALITY DAY**

in the State of Connecticut.



*Ned Lamont*

GOVERNOR