

Proclamation

by

Steven L. Beshear
Governor

of the

Commonwealth of Kentucky



To All To Whom These Presents Shall Come:

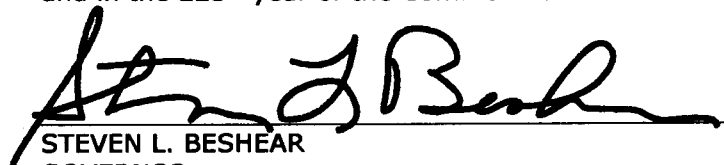
- WHEREAS, American Helen Keller was born on June 27, 1880, and became deaf and blind at the age of nineteen months as the result of an illness; and
- WHEREAS, In an era of little or no assistive technology, Ms. Keller overcame adversity to become one of the most accomplished and respected Americans, gaining worldwide recognition as an author, lecturer, political activist and humanitarian who devoted her life to helping others; and
- WHEREAS, Like Ms. Keller, thousands of Americans are currently estimated to have some combination of hearing and vision loss, including many in Kentucky; and
- WHEREAS, Fortunately, modern communications technology can knock down traditional barriers and enable deaf-blind people to communicate with the world, participate in their communities and stay connected to family and friends; and
- WHEREAS, The National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program, called "iCanConnect," is a federal public-private partnership that provides a wide array of free, accessible communication equipment and training to low-income people with severe hearing and vision loss; and
- WHEREAS, iCanConnect works closely with Kentucky agencies and advocates to make this technology and other services available to our people who are deaf-blind in order to reduce their feelings of isolation, increase independence and promote opportunities for all; and
- WHEREAS, It is fitting to celebrate the abilities and potential of our citizens with severe hearing and vision loss, and to commemorate the birth month of Helen Keller - an example to all of courage, hope, determination and achievement;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, STEVEN L. BESHEAR, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby proclaim June 2014 as

HELEN KELLER DEAF-BLIND AWARENESS MONTH

in Kentucky.

DONE AT THE CAPITOL, in the City of Frankfort the 17th day of June, in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand Fourteen and in the 223rd year of the Commonwealth.


STEVEN L. BESHEAR
GOVERNOR


ALISON LUNDERGAN GRIMES
SECRETARY OF STATE

RECEIVED AND FILED

DATE 6/17/14

ALISON LUNDERGAN GRIMES
SECRETARY OF STATE

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BY R. Allen
