

# The State of Maryland



## Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

**FALL PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK  
SEPTEMBER 22 - 28, 2013**

- WHEREAS,** Maryland is home to 707,642 citizens over the age of 65, comprising 12.3 percent of our state's population; and
- WHEREAS,** It is estimated that across the country one-third of people over the age of 65, and half over the age of 80 will fall each year; and
- WHEREAS,** Falls are the leading cause of injury-related emergency room visits and hospital admissions among Marylanders age 65 and older, resulting in over \$248 million in medical charges annually, and falls are the leading cause of injury-related deaths among people over the age of 65; and
- WHEREAS,** Injuries from falls are largely preventable; and
- WHEREAS,** The quality of life is improved for Maryland citizens who remain free from fall-related injury, independent and active.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARTIN O'MALLEY, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim September 22 - 28, 2013 as FALL PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK in Maryland, and encourage all citizens to help reduce the number of injuries associated with falls by recognizing and resolving hazardous environments for Maryland seniors.**



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,  
this 22nd day of September  
Two Thousand and thirteen

Handwritten signature of Martin O'Malley in black ink.  
Governor

Handwritten signature of Robert Ehrlich in black ink.  
Lt. Governor

Handwritten signature of Joe C. McPherson in black ink.  
Secretary of State