

The State of Maryland



Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

FALL PREVENTION AWARENESS WEEK SEPTEMBER 21-27, 2014

- 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 \$244 million in medical charges in 2011; and*
- WHEREAS,** *falls were the leading cause of injury-related deaths among Marylanders over the age of 65 in 2011; 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 21-27, 2014 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 21st day of September
Two Thousand and fourteen

Martin O'Malley
Governor

Robert Ehrlich
Lt. Governor

John C. McLean
Secretary of State