

The State of Washington



Proclamation

WHEREAS, there are approximately 2.1 million Americans living with limb loss and limb difference; and

WHEREAS, over 500 Americans lose a limb every day; and

WHEREAS, approximately 1,000 children are born each year in the United States with congenital limb difference and 600 children lose a limb to a lawn mower accident every summer; and

WHEREAS, diabetes, peripheral vascular disease, and trauma are cited as the leading causes of amputation, with approximately 99 percent of cases being contributed to them; and

WHEREAS, studies have shown that behaviors such as diabetes management, properly treating wounds, and observing safety practices can be effective in preventing amputations; and

WHEREAS, the number of Americans living with limb loss/difference will increase to over 3.6 million by 2050 unless a major public awareness campaign is launched and key prevention initiatives put in place; and

WHEREAS, access to appropriate prosthetic care for people living with limb loss is vital to enable individuals to reach their full potential, live independently, and live well; and

WHEREAS, the Amputee Coalition of America provides education, support, and advocacy through the National Limb Loss Resource Center for the benefit of persons with limb loss/difference, their families, and health care providers throughout the United States; and

WHEREAS, April is an appropriate month to designate as Limb Loss Awareness Month as spring is a time of renewal and inspiration;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jay Inslee, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim April 2023 as

Limb Loss and Limb Difference Awareness Month

in Washington, and I urge all people in our state to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 3rd day of April, 2023

Handwritten signature of Governor Jay Inslee in blue ink.

Governor Jay Inslee

