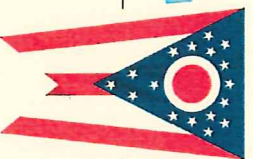


In the Name and by the Authority of
THE STATE OF OHIO



WHEREAS, direct support professionals, direct care workers, personal assistants, personal attendants, in-home support workers, and paraprofessionals (referred to in this preamble as “direct support professionals”) are the primary providers of publicly-funded long term supports and services for many thousands of individuals with disabilities in Ohio; and

WHEREAS, a direct support professional must build close, respectful, and trusted relationships with an individual with disabilities as they assist them with intimate personal care assistance on a daily basis; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals provide a broad range of individualized supports, including preparation of meals, helping with medications, bathing, dressing, mobility, and getting to school, work, religious practices; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals provide essential support to help keep an individual with disabilities connected to their family, friends, and community; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals support individuals with disabilities in making choices that lead to meaningful, productive lives and are the key to enabling an individual with disabilities to live successfully in the community, and to avoid more costly institutional care; and

WHEREAS, direct support professionals’ critical participation in medical care planning, critical to the successful transition from medical events to post-acute care and long term supports and services, and in supporting persons who are receiving health care services for severe chronic health conditions or with functional limitations; and

WHEREAS, there is a growing shortage of direct support professionals throughout the United States.

NOW, THEREFORE, we, Mike DeWine and Jon Husted, Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby recognize September 13-19, 2020 as

**OHIO DIRECT SUPPORT PROFESSIONALS
RECOGNITION WEEK**

on this 13th day of September 2020.

Mike DeWine
Governor



Jon Husted
Lieutenant Governor