  
**State of Iowa**  
**Executive Department**

IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF IOWA

**PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that 17.7 percent of Iowa citizens are 65 years of age or older; and

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that one fourth of people 65 and older will fall each year; and

**WHEREAS**, falls are the leading cause of unintentional injury deaths in Iowa and the number of falls in Iowa is higher than the national average; and

**WHEREAS**, the financial toll for older adult falls is expected to increase as the population ages and may reach \$101 billion nationally by 2030; and

**WHEREAS**, the estimated average charges for fall-related hospitalizations are increasing and account for more than \$415 million annually; and

**WHEREAS**, falls among older adults occur in all socioeconomic and cultural groups; and

**WHEREAS**, injuries from falls are primarily a preventable community health problem; and

**WHEREAS**, members of the Iowa Falls Prevention Coalition are working to increase awareness of this issue, promote multidisciplinary strategies to prevent falls and encourage citizens to take steps to protect those who are at increased risk of falling; and

**WHEREAS**, guided by a community-level collaboration of researchers, healthcare providers, and community stakeholders, Iowa is working to increase statewide fall risk screening and the dissemination of evidence-based programs in efficient and equitable ways.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kim Reynolds, Governor of the State of Iowa, do hereby proclaim** September 18-22, 2023, as:


**Falls Prevention Week**



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I HAVE HEREUNTO SUBSCRIBED MY NAME AND CAUSED THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF IOWA TO BE AFFIXED. DONE AT DES MOINES THIS 1<sup>st</sup> DAY OF SEPTEMBER IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-THREE.

  
KIM REYNOLDS  
GOVERNOR OF IOWA

ATTEST:

  
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PAUL PATE  
SECRETARY OF STATE