



CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

WHEREAS, the Missouri Speech-Language-Hearing Association (MSHA) is a non-profit organization representing 4,504 licensed professionals with advanced degrees in speech-language pathology (4,177 speech-language pathologists) and audiology (327 audiologists); and

WHEREAS, Missouri has two Doctor of Audiology programs specializing in the prevention and assessment of hearing and balance disorders, as well as providing audiology treatment, including dispensing hearing aids; and

WHEREAS, Missouri has ten higher education institutions with Communication Sciences and Disorders degree programs providing identification, assessment and treatment to improve language, literacy, articulation, voice, stuttering, cognitive communication, and swallowing disorders with degrees in speech-language pathology; and

WHEREAS, communication disorders are among the most common conditions in children and adults, affecting tens of millions of people in the United States alone; if untreated, these disorders can negatively impact a person's academic, social, and career success—as well as their overall quality of life; and

WHEREAS, audiologists and speech-language pathologists serve these individuals in a wide variety of settings, including hospitals, skilled nursing/extended care facilities, rehabilitation centers, private practice, home health agencies, pediatric centers, preschools, public and private schools, college and university speech-language and hearing clinics, government facilities, and research laboratories.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael L. Parson, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, do hereby recognize May as Better Hearing and Speech Month in Missouri.

Michael L. Parson

GOVERNOR