

STATE OF OKLAHOMA



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Proclamation

Whereas, the U.S. Census Bureau estimates 20% of all Oklahomans have some form of disability; and

Whereas, people with disabilities constitute our nation's largest minority group; and

Whereas, this group is also the most inclusive and most diverse group: all ages, genders, religions, ethnicities, sexual orientations, and socioeconomic levels are represented; and

Whereas, when the words "retard" or "retarded" are used without thinking to mean something stupid or bad, it is hurtful to people who have disabilities and the people who love them; and

Whereas, it perpetuates prejudice and discrimination towards people with disabilities; and

Whereas, this word is just as cruel and offensive as any other slur or hate speech;

Now, therefore, I, Mary Fallin, Governor of the State of Oklahoma, do hereby proclaim March 7, 2012 as

"Spread the Word to End the 'r' Word Day"

in the State of Oklahoma.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Oklahoma to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, in the City of Oklahoma City, this 23rd day of February in the Year of Our Lord two thousand and twelve, and of the State of Oklahoma in the one hundred and fourth year.



TEST:

Assistant SECRETARY OF STATE

GOVERNOR