

2018 Limb Loss Awareness Month Proclamation Request Letter

Please customize it with your name and comments in the italic section or elsewhere, and be sure to include the sample language. If you have questions, contact the Amputee Coalition at amplify@amputee-coalition.org. Thank you for your support!

Dear *[Recipients]*,

The Amputee Coalition has submitted proclamation requests to all 50 states to once again recognize April as Limb Loss Awareness Month in 2018. To date 13 state Governors have signed similar proclamations since Limb Loss Awareness Month was initially recognized in 2011 and 2012. In addition to gubernatorial proclamations, mayors from across the country have also recognized this as an opportunity to support the limb loss community and recognition letters have been signed by the White House. With this in mind, I encourage you to sign this important proclamation for the limb loss community and the larger population at risk for limb loss.

The Limb Loss Awareness Month proclamation would recognize the limb loss community, the impact that limb loss has on the lives of family, friends, and caregivers, and would provide an opportunity for people with limb loss to come together, support one another, educate the broader community about limb loss, and raise awareness about issues affecting the limb loss population.

The limb loss community is a broad community, including children, young adults, combat veterans, career professionals, older veterans, and other older Americans affected by limb loss. Limb Loss Awareness Month brings together the more than 2 million Americans living with limb loss and allows for outreach initiatives to those at risk for limb loss.

I've included sample proclamation language that is consistent with the proclamation requests that have been submitted by the Amputee Coalition below for your consideration.

I encourage you to sign this proclamation for our community to recognize the need to raise awareness. Your support would be greatly appreciated, and signing the proclamation would provide greater awareness of Limb Loss Awareness Month and increase the ability to support the community and highlight people living well and living independently with limb loss.

Thank you for your consideration of this important initiative.

Sample proclamation language for consideration:

Whereas, there are approximately 2 million Americans living with limb loss/difference;

Whereas, over 500 Americans lose a limb every day;

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;

Whereas, diabetes and peripheral vascular disease are the leading causes of limb loss followed closely by trauma;

Whereas, studies show up to 60 percent of limb loss could be preventable;

Whereas, the number of amputations per day will double by 2050 unless a major public awareness campaign is launched and key prevention initiatives put in place;

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;

Whereas, the Amputee Coalition provides education, outreach, 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, _____, as Governor of the state of _____ do hereby proclaim April:

NATIONAL LIMB LOSS AWARENESS MONTH

In the state of _____ and encourage all of its citizens to join in recognizing the importance of this month by celebrating people living with limb loss and limb difference, learning about issues affecting people with limb loss, express gratitude to family and caregivers who are a source of support and motivation, and salute our veterans who have lost their limbs in service to this country or in retirement.

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Sincerely,

Your Name