

2026 GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION REQUEST FOR LIMB LOSS AND LIMB DIFFERENCE AWARENESS MONTH

Every state's process is different, but the information needed is the same. Please use the following information when completing your request:

- **Organization Name:** Amputee Coalition
- **Title:** Advocate
- **Title of Proclamation:** April is Limb Loss and Limb Difference Awareness Month
- **Date of Proclamation:** April 2026
- **Notification Preference:** Mail or Email

Some states may require additional information about the organization or the purpose of the proclamation. Please use the following when completing those sections:

Organization Description: The Amputee Coalition is the United States' leading organization dedicated to supporting the over 5.6 million Americans living with limb loss and limb difference. Since 1986, the Coalition has been at the forefront of providing essential resources, outreach, and community connections that empower individuals and their families and caregivers. Through the National Limb Loss Resource Center, the Coalition enhances the quality of life for those who have limb loss and limb difference. The organization also fosters community and awareness through events, camps, and initiatives, including the annual recognition of April as Limb Loss and Limb Difference Awareness Month.

Awareness Month Description: The Amputee Coalition designates April as Limb Loss and Limb Difference Awareness Month to raise awareness about the 5.6++ million Americans living with limb loss and limb difference, honor their resilience and foster community connections. During this month-long recognition, several meaningful activities take place to bring people together, create a supportive community, and help educate the broader public about the experiences of those with limb loss and limb difference. Activities include Wear Orange Wednesdays, a mixed-media art challenge, and Show Your Mettle on the final Saturday, where participants share their strength by showing their *mettle*, or courage and resilience in the face of challenge.

Purpose: Limb Loss and Limb Difference Awareness Month serves as a platform for people to unite, support each other, educate the public, and bring attention to important issues related to limb loss and limb difference. Limb loss can happen due to a variety of health issues including vascular diseases such as diabetes and peripheral artery disease, along with trauma, cancer, infections. Limb difference is usually the result of being born with a congenital difference.

Whereas Statements:

Whereas, there are approximately 5.6++ million Americans living with limb loss and limb difference;

Whereas, 500,000 new cases of limb loss and limb difference occur annually;

Whereas, approximately 35,000 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, vascular disease, and infection are the most common diagnoses preceding an amputation;

Whereas, studies have shown that behaviors such as diabetes management, properly treating wounds, and observing safety practices can be effective in preventing amputations;

Whereas, access to appropriate prosthetic and orthotic care, as well as mobility devices including complex rehabilitation technology, for people living with limb loss and limb difference is vital to enable individuals to reach their full potential and live healthy, independent lives with the ability to engage in activities of daily living, essential job-related functions, personal hygiene, and physical activity to maximize whole body and mental wellbeing.

Whereas, the Amputee Coalition provides education, support and advocacy through the National Limb Loss Resource Center for the benefit of persons with limb loss and limb difference, their families, and health care providers throughout the United States; and

Whereas, April is an appropriate month to designate as Limb Loss and Limb Difference 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 AND LIMB DIFFERENCE AWARENESS MONTH 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, expressing gratitude to family and caregivers who are a source of support and motivation, and saluting our veterans who have lost their limbs in service to this country or in retirement.

###