



John Bel Edwards
GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS,

four in every five Louisianans living in poverty lack access to legal assistance that is often critical to their safety and independence, with the majority of these civil problems being domestic violence, divorce, child custody, evictions, mortgage foreclosures and the physical and financial abuse of the elderly; and

WHEREAS,

legal services agencies, pro bono service programs, the State Bar of Louisiana and local bar associations throughout Louisiana have enlisted the services of volunteer attorneys to provide valuable legal services to those in need; and

WHEREAS,

civil legal aid is often an indispensable tool necessary to address critical survival needs such as employment and income, housing, healthcare, education and family safety; and

WHEREAS,

access to civil legal aid attorneys can mean the difference between shelter and homelessness, economic stability and bankruptcy, positive work and unemployment; and

WHEREAS,

during the week of October 26 - 31, 2020, the Louisiana State Bar Association's Access to Justice Program, in collaboration with local pro bono projects, businesses, government agencies and communities, will bring awareness and celebrate their many accomplishments; and

WHEREAS,

during "Pro Bono Week", attorneys from throughout Louisiana demonstrate their commitment to the rule of law and to ensuring all Louisianans have access to legal assistance by participating in community volunteer activities such as the "Lawyers in Libraries" program and other local activities.

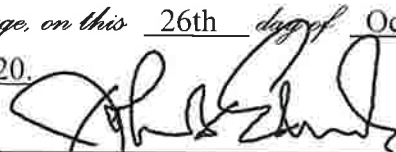
NOW, THEREFORE,

I, John Bel Edwards, Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim October 26-31, 2020 as

PRO BONO WEEK
in the State of Louisiana.



*In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand
officially and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the
State of Louisiana, at the Capitol, in the City of
Baton Rouge, on this 26th day of October
A.D. 2020.*


Governor of Louisiana