



John Bel Edwards
GOVERNOR

Proclamation

WHEREAS, four of 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

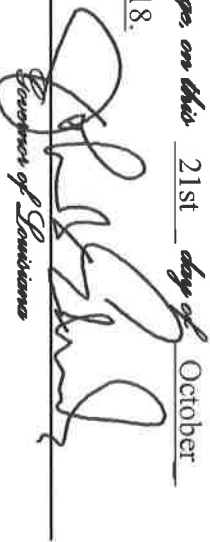
WHEREAS, during the week of October 21 - 27, 2018 the Louisiana State Bar Association's Access to Justice Program, in collaboration with local pro bono projects, businesses, government agencies and community organizations will be celebrating "Pro Bono Week" and the "Lawyers in Libraries" program to highlight the work of Louisiana's pro bono community and the difference it makes to our state, our system of justice, our communities and most of all, to the clients served.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, **John Bel Edwards**, Governor of the State of Louisiana, do hereby proclaim October 21-27, 2018 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 21st day of October
A.D. 2018.*


Governor of Louisiana