



In the Name and by the Authority of

THE STATE OF

OHIO



WHEREAS, assistive technology is any item, piece of equipment, software program, or product system used to increase, maintain, or improve the functional capabilities of people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, assistive technology can be life-changing and key to overall independence; and

WHEREAS, the Assistive Technology (AT) Act of 2004 authorized funding for states to conduct needs assessments and develop and implement a system of technology-related assistance for consumers; and

WHEREAS, Assistive Technology of Ohio (AT Ohio), at The Ohio State University, is Ohio's official Tech Act program and offers programs to help Ohioans with disabilities learn about and acquire assistive technology to succeed in school, obtain and maintain employment, and live more independent and connected lives; and

WHEREAS, as part Ohio's Technology First initiative, the Ohio Department of Developmental Disabilities (DODD) works with county boards of developmental disabilities to ensure technology is considered as part of all service and support plans for people with disabilities; and

WHEREAS, from 2018 to 2021, the Technology First initiative has seen a 53% increase in authorizations for remote support and assistive technology services, with 84 counties taking part; and

WHEREAS, by raising awareness about assistive technology, Ohio is calling attention to its value and encouraging its use.

NOW, THEREFORE, We, **Mike DeWine** and **Jon Husted** Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby recognize

ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY AWARENESS DAY

on this 14th day of April 2021.

Mike DeWine
Governor



Jon Husted
Lieutenant Governor