

## OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

## PROCLAMATION IN OBSERVANCE OF ESTATE PLANNING AWARENESS MONTH

Whereas, estate planning encourages timely decisions about the method of holding title to certain assets, the designation of beneficiaries, and the possible transfer of assets during the life of the benefactor; and

Whereas, many citizens are unaware that the lack of estate planning may cause their assets to be taxed at higher rates than necessary or (by default through the complex process of probate) be disposed of to unintended parties; and

Whereas, alternatives to disposition of assets after death, such as planned gift giving, may accomplish a benefactor's goals and reduce the amount of an estate used to pay taxes; and

Whereas, careful planning can prevent family members or other beneficiaries from being subjected to complex legal and administrative processes requiring significant expenditure of time, and greatly reduce confusion or even animosity for asset management and health care; and

Whereas, careful financial and estate planning can greatly assist our citizens in accumulating and preserving assets built over a lifetime for the benefit of family, heirs or charities.

Now, Therefore, We, John C. Carney, Governor, and Bethany A. Hall-Long, Lieutenant Governor, do hereby declare October 2019, as

## ESTATE PLANNING AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of Delaware, and we urge all Delawareans to join us in this special observance.

OF THE COLUMNOR.

John C. Carney

Bethany A. Hall-Long
Lieutenant Governor

<u>17-2391</u> Number