

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania



Governor's Office

PROCLAMATION

EMPLOY OLDER WORKERS WEEK

September 24-30, 2017

WHEREAS, nearly half of today's retirees report that they have worked or plan to work in retirement, and approximately 72 percent of baby boomer pre-retirees say they want to keep working after they retire; and

WHEREAS, a great number of older Pennsylvanians are postponing retirement due to factors such as : increased life expectancy and better health; growing number of white collar jobs, which older workers are more physically able to perform; and increasing numbers of employed women; and

WHEREAS, the number of older adult workers (age 65 and over) is projected to increase by nearly 29 percent between 2010 and 2020 while the working age population (age 20-64) is not projected to grow; and

WHEREAS, by retaining older workers, employers will maintain their skills, knowledge, experience, and relationships. In addition, employers will retain the values that older workers bring to the workplace, such as responsibility, dedication, and role as mentors to younger employees; and

WHEREAS, many employers in the Commonwealth recognize the talents of older workers, with recent data showing that the commonwealth's unemployment rate for those age 55 and older stands at just 3.6%, compared with 6.3% for the total population; and

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Department of Aging, through its Senior Community Service Employment Program, is committed to promoting the benefits of employing older workers as well as providing on-the-job training opportunities for income-eligible older individuals.

THEREFORE, in recognition of the important role older Pennsylvanians play in our current and future workforce, I, Tom Wolf, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do hereby proclaim September 24-30, 2017 as EMPLOY OLDER WORKERS WEEK. I encourage all Pennsylvanians to provide their support in hiring and retaining older workers.

GIVEN under my hand and the Seal of the Governor, at the City of Harrisburg, this seventeenth of August two thousand seventeen, the year of the commonwealth the two hundred forty-second.



Tom Wolf
TOM WOLF
Governor