

STATE OF MICHIGAN



Executive
Office

Jennifer M. Granholm
Governor

CERTIFICATE OF PROCLAMATION

On behalf of the citizens of Michigan, I, Governor Jennifer M. Granholm,
do hereby proclaim the week of October 17, 2010,

Estate Planning Awareness Week

Whereas, Careful estate planning can greatly assist Michigan residents in preserving assets built over a lifetime for the benefit of family, heirs or charities; and,

Whereas, It is estimated that more than 120 million Americans do not have up-to-date estate plans to protect themselves or their families regarding 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,

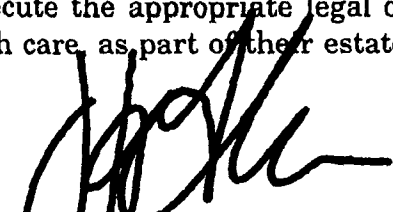
Whereas, Estate planning involves many considerations, including safekeeping of important documents, documentation of assets, preparation of legal instruments, insurance, availability of trust arrangements, charitable giving, inter vivos care of the benefactor and use of life support functions; and,

Whereas, The lack of estate planning and financial illiteracy may subject assets to be taxed at maximum rates or, by default through the complex process of probate, to 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 given to 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 among family members or other heirs upon the death of a loved one;

Now, Therefore, be it Resolved, That I, Jennifer M. Granholm, governor of the state of Michigan, do hereby proclaim the week of October 17, 2010, Estate Planning Awareness Week in Michigan. The implementation of an estate plan starts with sound education and preparation, which is why I encourage the residents of this state to properly draft and execute the appropriate legal documents, including wills, trusts and durable powers of attorney for health care, as part of their estate planning process.


Jennifer M. Granholm