



Proclamation Request Guide

Employee Ownership Month is celebrated every October by The ESOP Association and its members. It's a celebration of the incredible spirit of employee ownership and an opportunity to educate employee owners of the tremendous benefits of employee stock ownership plans (ESOPs). It is also a chance to educate the public and elected officials as to why employee ownership is good public policy.

One great (and relatively easy!) way to raise awareness about employee ownership is securing a proclamation from an elected official. A proclamation is a formal public declaration, typically issued by a governor, but can also be issued by some mayors or considered by some state legislatures. Proclamations are used to commemorate a specific time period, raise awareness about an issue, or celebrate a milestone. These vary by state and must be submitted by a constituent. Receiving a proclamation can take anywhere from 30 days to 3 months depending on the state or locality that would issue it.

Consider starting today and encouraging your Governor, Mayor, or State Legislature to issue a proclamation celebrating Employee Ownership Month!

Below lists the link of each state governor's office to assist you on receiving a formal declaration.

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| Alaska | Louisiana | North Dakota |
| Alabama | Maine | Ohio |
| Arizona | Maryland | Oklahoma |
| Arkansas | Massachusetts | Oregon |
| California | Michigan | Pennsylvania |
| Colorado | Minnesota | Rhode Island |
| Connecticut | Mississippi | South Carolina |
| Delaware | Missouri | South Dakota |
| Florida | Montana | Tennessee |
| Georgia | Nebraska | Texas |
| Hawaii | Nevada | Utah |
| Idaho | New Hampshire | Vermont |
| Illinois | New Jersey | Virginia |
| Indiana | New Mexico | Washington |
| Iowa | New York | West Virginia |
| Kansas | North Carolina | Wisconsin |
| Kentucky | | Wyoming |

Contact The ESOP Association

Please reach out to The ESOP Association Government Relations Department with any questions or comments about Proclamation Requests.

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Sample Employee Ownership Month Proclamation Text

WHEREAS, employee stock ownership plans (ESOPs) have been established in numerous companies around the country, employing nearly 11 million working men and women; and

WHEREAS, employee ownership is becoming a practice that is instrumental in helping Americans share in our nation's growth and prosperity by enabling our citizens to accumulate significant amounts of capital stock in the business at which they are employed at no cost to themselves; and

WHEREAS, research has shown that ESOPs provide a strong and secure retirement that significantly supports families and retirees; and

WHEREAS, employee ownership has been shown by objective research to provide several benefits, including increased productivity, improved employee retention, and increased employee engagement, and

WHEREAS, employee ownership has been shown to narrow the wealth inequality gap; and

WHEREAS, employee owners are more likely to engage in important vocational training, with employee-owned companies more likely to sponsor training that promotes employee job growth and development; and

WHEREAS, employee ownership has become a powerful incentive for Americans to make the best of their talents and energies in their places of work, thus strengthening the competitive potential of our state's businesses; and

WHEREAS, employee ownership helps create and retain jobs in our state; and

WHEREAS, the successful record of employee-owned firms in benefiting both companies and employees merits recognition.

THEREFORE, I proclaim October to be officially recognized as Employee Ownership Month.

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