



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

September 17, 2012

Guide Dog Day

For centuries, guide dogs have been helping the blind and visually impaired make their way in the world with greater ease, confidence and safety.

According to the American Federation of the Blind, over 7,000 Americans rely on these remarkable canines, often trusting them with their very lives. California has long recognized the need to promote high standards in the training of these animals, and in 1947 created the State Board of Guide Dogs for the Blind to license schools that teach these vital skills. California's three licensed schools now graduate nearly 400 guide dog teams each year.

We hope all Californians will join us in recognizing the important contributions of guide dogs, the licensed professionals who train them, and the Californians who depend on them by joining the California Board of Guide Dogs for the Blind in celebrating "Guide Dog Day" on September 17, 2012.

Sincerely,


EDMUND G. BROWN JR.



SUTTER BROWN