0/00/00/00/00/00/00/00/00/00/00/00/00/ PROCLAMATION **WHEREAS**, the City of Salem recognizes that everyone has the right to equality, opportunity, independence, and freedom; and **WHEREAS,** we also recognize that those in our community who are blind or otherwise disabled have the same rights as they pursue employment and full participation in the economic and social life; and **WHEREAS,** we understand that the white cane is not only a tool used by those who are blind to travel independently and safely, but is also a symbol of their rights as they pursue their goals; and **WHEREAS**, we recognize that these rights are protected through laws at the local, state, and federal levels through legislation known as the "White Cane Law" in an effort to prevent accidents; and **WHEREAS**, we urge motorists to act courteously and take proper precautions when encountering blind pedestrians on our streets and sidewalks; and **NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Julie Hoy, Mayor of the City of Salem, do hereby proclaim October 15, 2025, as WHITE CANE SAFETY DAY and invite the community to use this occasion to reflect upon the significance of the white cane and to support employment and full integration of blind individuals in our City. DATED this thirteenth day of October, 2025. Julie Hoy Mayor 0/00/00/00/00/00/00/00/00/00/