



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS) is a rare, serious disorder of your skin and mucous membranes, and it's usually from a reaction to a medication or an infection; and

WHEREAS, SJS is a medical emergency that usually requires hospitalization. The treatment focuses on eliminating the underlying cause, controlling symptoms and minimizing complications as your skin regrows; and

WHEREAS, two million people are hospitalized every year with Stevens-Johnson Syndrome and 140,000 perish from the disease; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the early symptoms and prompt medical attention are the most crucial preventive solutions in minimizing the possibility of the long-term effects; and

WHEREAS, most victims are children and young adults under the age of 30, and those who survive are left with permanent scars inside and out; and

WHEREAS, complications can include permanent blindness, dry eye syndrome, photophobia, lung damage, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD), asthma, permanent loss of nail beds, scarring of the esophagus, and other mucous membranes, arthritis and chronic fatigue syndrome. The disease, if left untreated can result in death;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim August 2018, as

Stevens-Johnson syndrome Awareness

Month

in the State of Alabama and urge all citizens to help raise awareness of recognizing the symptoms of this disease in order to provide the correct medical treatment.



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the Office of the Governor at the State Capitol in the City of Montgomery on the 2nd day of August 2018.

Kay Ivey

Kay Ivey, Governor