



# Proclamation

## By the Governor of Alabama

*WHEREAS, the health and safety of all Alabamians is important to the happiness, prosperity, and well-being of our states, families and communities; and*

*WHEREAS, Esophageal Cancer is one of the fastest growing cancer diagnoses in the United States, increasing more than 400 in the past 20 years. Esophageal Cancer kills one American every 36 minutes each and every day; and*

*WHEREAS, Esophageal Cancer is among the deadliest cancers with fewer than one in five patients surviving five years; and*

*WHEREAS, despite its rapid increase and poor prognosis, esophageal cancer receives very little research funding. The NCI Funded Research Portfolio shows Esophageal Cancer distribution at less than 1 of the total cancer funding dollars; and*

*WHEREAS, Esophageal Cancer can be a silent killer with patients often unaware that the heartburn, difficult swallowing, cough, hoarse voice, sore throat or chest pain they pain they suffer can be reasons to discuss screening for Esophageal Cancer with their medical care professional; and*

*WHEREAS, Esophageal Cancer is often discovered during advanced stages, but if discovered early, chances for recovery and survival are far better, and treatments for the disease include surgery, chemotherapy, radiation and laser therapy; and*

*WHEREAS, during this month, we raise awareness of esophageal cancer in Alabama encouraging citizens to pay attention to esophageal cancer symptoms to promote early detection and treatment;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim April 2019, as*

# Esophageal Cancer Awareness Month

*in the State of Alabama.*



*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 28<sup>th</sup> day of March 2019.*

*Kay Ivey*

*Kay Ivey, Governor*