



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, approximately 15% of the general population suffers from Irlen Syndrome, which affects daily function due to the brain's inability to process visual information; and

WHEREAS, people of all ages and ethnicities may experience Irlen Syndrome symptoms, which include light sensitivity, headaches or migraines, difficulty or discomfort when reading, eye strain, and distorted print, text or environment; and

WHEREAS, evidence shows that brain injuries, concussions, chronic headaches and migraines have also been linked to Irlen Syndrome; and

WHEREAS, failure to identify and treat Irlen Syndrome can have severe consequences, ranging from academic and workplace failure or ongoing physical and emotional symptoms, to increased likelihood to enter the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, the Irlen Institutes' founder Helen Irlen says that Irlen Syndrome is more common than heart disease or asthma and affects daily quality of life in serious ways, and by increasing awareness, they hope to move away from costly misdiagnoses and help sufferers' access readily available solutions; and

WHEREAS, International Irlen Syndrome Awareness Week highlights the importance and ease of correctly identifying and treating Irlen Syndrome;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim October 19-23, 2019, as

Irlen Awareness Week

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 10th day of October 2019.

Kay Ivey

Kay Ivey, Governor