



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, the brain directs involuntary actions like breathing, blinking, thinking and swallowing. It also controls our senses, personality, memory, walking, talking, toileting and profoundly impacts both the ability for life and quality of life for patient and caregiver; and

WHEREAS, a primary brain tumor (meaning the tumor originates in the brain) diagnosis does not discriminate, and can afflict men, women and children of all races and ethnicities. A diagnosis, has changed the life of over 700,000 people in the United States who are living with a primary brain tumor, and it is estimated 18,000 will die from a malignant brain tumor in 2018; and

WHEREAS, a metastatic brain tumor, (meaning the tumor originates in the body and spreads to the brain) diagnosis also does not discriminate, it can afflict men, women and children of all races and ethnicities; it has changed the life of an average of 25-40% of all patients affected by cancers (e.g., breast, lung, skin, colon cancers, roughly 10 times more common than primary brain tumors). Millions of people in the United States are living with a metastatic brain tumor and it is estimated almost half will die from a metastatic brain tumor in 2018; and

WHEREAS, a brain tumor profoundly impacts the lives of patients and caregivers. It is imperative to increase public awareness of this disease, its life altering impact and its treatment options, through research, advocacy programs and education programs, as well as generate a call to action in support of finding a cure; and

WHEREAS, Alabama is home to the University of Alabama at Birmingham, a major brain tumor treatment center, whose programs focus on research to find better treatments, a cure for brain tumors and a higher quality of life for brain tumor patients; and

WHEREAS, despite the fact there are only four FDA approved drugs to treat primary brain tumors, and despite there being no FDA approved drugs exclusively for patients with metastatic brain tumors, one of the most important things a brain tumor patient can do is to surround themselves with doctors dedicated to brain tumor specialty treatments and care. Patients should also support efforts to aggressively seek education and support for themselves and their caregivers through local organizations like the Southeastern Brain Tumor Foundation, or national organizations like the American Brain Tumor Association, the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation for Children and the National Brain Tumor Society. These organizations generate a greater awareness of this disease, to uncover resources and services and to band together to spearhead and advance treatments, research and support;

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

Brain Tumor 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 1st day of May 2018.*

Kay Ivey

Kay Ivey, Governor