



# Proclamation

## By the Governor of Alabama

*WHEREAS, Lynch syndrome, formerly known as hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer (HNPCC), is a hereditary condition that causes greater risk of developing colorectal, endometrial, ovarian, stomach, hepatobiliary tract, urinary tract, skin and brain cancer; and*

*WHEREAS, Lynch Syndrome creates a hereditary predisposition to a litany of cancers at a high lifetime risk and often at an early onset age. The risk includes up to 82% for colorectal cancer; up to 71% risk for endometrial cancer; up to 24% risk for ovarian cancer; up to 13% risk for gastric cancer; and up to 4-10% risk for urinary tract cancer; and*

*WHEREAS, geneticists have projected that up to 1,000,000 persons throughout the U.S., live with Lynch syndrome, estimating that one in every 279 persons have Lynch Syndrome, and studies show that only 5-10% have been diagnosed, leaving many people vulnerable to develop cancer; and*

*WHEREAS, every person should know their family history and share it with their physician to determine if their family may be at high risk for hereditary cancers and prompt genetic testing; and*

*WHEREAS, every newly diagnosed colorectal cancer and endometrial cancer should be screened for Lynch syndrome characteristics to prompt risk assessment and genetic testing; and*

*WHEREAS, a positive genetic test will determine if these cancers are hereditary or familial, qualifying affected individuals for regular cancer screening tests so that growths, polyps and tumors may be detected early and treated or removed before becoming life threatening; and*

*WHEREAS, having knowledge of a Lynch syndrome diagnosis can increase cancer prevention through regular screening measures, and lead to earlier cancer detection and treatment; and*

*WHEREAS, on this day, we join together to raise awareness of Lynch syndrome in Alabama, and encourage all residents to learn more about this hereditary condition, to collect their family history information, and to share this pertinent information with their healthcare provider in order to assess individual risk and take steps toward prevention and detection;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim March 22, 2018, as*

## Lynch Syndrome Hereditary Cancer Awareness Day

*in the State of Alabama and encourage all citizens of Alabama to learn their families' health histories of cancer and discuss it with their physicians in order to protect families and save lives from hereditary cancers.*



*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 5th day of March 2018.*

*Kay Ivey*  
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Kay Ivey, Governor