



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, myositis is the general term used to describe the Idiopathic Inflammatory Myopathies which include dermatomyositis, polymyositis, necrotizing myopathy, inclusion body myositis and the juvenile forms of myositis, which are rare, autoimmune muscle and skin diseases that may also affect the lungs and other organs; and

WHEREAS, myositis affects roughly 50,000 people in the United States and takes on average three and one-half years to diagnose, and is often misdiagnosed causing a delay in potentially helpful therapies which may lead to permanent muscle loss, organ damage and total disability; and

WHEREAS, education for patients, caregivers, family members, physicians, other healthcare providers, medical decision-makers and lawmakers is essential to the overall health and well-being of patients; and

WHEREAS, myositis affects every aspect of patients' lives including emotional, physical, financial and relational. Patients deserve emotional support, financial assistance and understanding; and

WHEREAS, raising awareness of and increasing funding for myositis are important factors in advancing research and developing more effective treatments with a goal of a cure for myositis; and

WHEREAS, Congress passed a House Resolution in 2006 proclaiming September 21st as National Myositis Awareness Day, and now, as in past years, we celebrate during the month of May, and the State of Alabama would like to join Congress, Myositis and Rare Disease organizations, and patients in raising awareness of Myositis during the month of May;

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

Myositis Awareness Month

in the State of Alabama and encourage all citizens of Alabama to join together and learn more about Myositis and advocate for increased research funding and education programs.



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 20th day of April 2018.

Kay Ivey
Kay Ivey, Governor