



STATE OF TENNESSEE

PROCLAMATION

BY THE GOVERNOR

WHEREAS, Fabry disease is a rare, progressive, and life-threatening inherited genetic disorder that causes children and adults to suffer a cascade of life-altering and life-threatening symptoms such as pain, inability to perspire, intolerance to heat and exercise, fevers, and gastrointestinal difficulties all of which can lead to excessive school and work absences. It may progress to include heart disease, kidney disease, cerebrovascular disease, and other symptoms. It often causes premature death in adults due to heart attacks, strokes and kidney failure; and

WHEREAS, Fabry disease is caused by deficient activity of the lysosomal enzyme alpha-galactosidase A that causes insufficient breakdown of lipids. Lipids build up to harmful levels in the body causing lysosomal and cellular dysfunction; and

WHEREAS, there is an approved enzyme replacement treatment for Fabry disease;

WHEREAS, increased physician and family education are critical to increase disease recognition; and

WHEREAS, the most common estimate of classic Fabry disease incidence is 1 in 50,000 males with a reduced estimate in females. However, this is likely an underestimate and there may be more people affected with Fabry disease; and

WHEREAS, an enzyme assay test for males and molecular DNA test for females can confirm the diagnosis in individuals with symptoms of Fabry disease. Together, we can raise awareness to fight this tragic but treatable disorder;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bill Haslam, Governor of the State of Tennessee, do hereby proclaim April, 2014, as

Fabry Disease Awareness Month

in Tennessee and encourage all citizens to join me in this worthy observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the official seal of the State of Tennessee to be affixed at Nashville on this fourth day of March, 2014.



Bill Haslam

Governor

Joe Kergett

Secretary of State