The State of Maryland

Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

USHER SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY
SEPTEMBER 19, 2020

WHEREAS, Usher syndrome is a relatively rare genetic disorder caused by a mutation in any one of at least 10 genes resulting in a combination of hearing loss and visual impairment, and is a leading cause of combined deafness and blindness; and

WHEREAS, More than 400,000 people are affected by this genetic disorder worldwide, with approximately 50,000 of those in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Usher syndrome, which is presently incurable, impacts three major senses in the body: vision, hearing, and balance; and

WHEREAS, There are three types of Usher syndrome: Type 1, Type 2, and Type 3, which are distinguished by the severity and age when the signs and symptoms appear; and

WHEREAS, Due to limited public awareness, those affected with Usher syndrome may suffer with depression, anxiety, isolation, loss of independence; and

WHEREAS, Maryland joins the Usher syndrome community in uniting around the world to spread public awareness about this condition.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim SEPTEMBER 19, 2020 as USHER SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY in Maryland, and do commend this observance to all of our citizens.

Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland, this 19th day of September, Two Thousand and twenty

[Signatures]

Governor
Lt. Governor
Secretary of State