



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, Usher Syndrome is a relatively rare genetic disorder caused by a mutation in any one of eleven genes resulting in a combination of hearing loss and visual impairment; 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, affects three major senses in the body including vision, hearing and balance; and

WHEREAS, there are three clinical types: Type 1, Type 2 and Type 3, which are distinguished by the severity and age when the signs and symptoms appear; and

WHEREAS, there are at least eleven different genetic types of Usher Syndrome, as determined by the genes that are involved; and

WHEREAS, one cannot determine the genetic type by clinical testing, as DNA testing is the only reliable way of determining the true genetic type; and

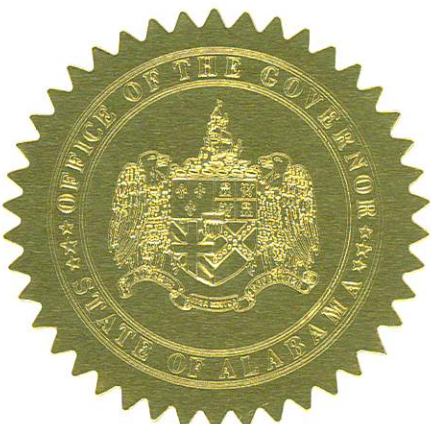
WHEREAS, due to limited public awareness, those affected with Usher Syndrome may suffer with depression, anxiety, isolation and loss of independence; and

WHEREAS, the Usher Syndrome community is uniting around the world to spread public awareness but especially to be recognized annually the 3rd Saturday of September;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim September 19, 2020, as

Usher Syndrome Awareness Day

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 5th day of August 2020.

Kay Ivey

Kay Ivey, Governor