

# The State of Maryland



## Proclamation

From the Governor of the State of Maryland

**RETT SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH**

**OCTOBER 2009**

**WHEREAS,** *RetT Syndrome Awareness Month is a childhood neurodevelopmental disorder that almost exclusively affects females. Although it is present at birth, symptoms usually do not develop until children are between the ages of 6 to 18 months; and*

**WHEREAS,** *RetT Syndrome is caused by a mutation on the X chromosome gene called MECP2. RetT Syndrome is the most debilitating of all the autism spectrum disorders; and*

**WHEREAS,** *There is no known cure for RetT Syndrome, but symptoms can be treated with medication. Also, occupational therapy, physiotherapy, and hydrotherapy can prolong mobility; and*

**WHEREAS,** *Maryland recognizes the need for increased research and more public knowledge and awareness of this rare, devastating neurodevelopmental disorder for which at this time there is no cure.*

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARTIN O'MALLEY, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND,** do hereby proclaim **OCTOBER 2009** as **RETT SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH** in Maryland, and do commend this celebration to all of our citizens.



*Given Under the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,  
this 1st day of October  
Four Thousand and nine*

*Martin O'Malley*  
Governor  
*Robert E. Brown*  
Lt. Governor  
*John C. McLean*  
Secretary of State