

Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

His Excellency Governor Deval L. Patrick

Whereas Rett syndrome is a devastating neurodevelopmental disorder caused by a sporadic, genetic mutation of the MECP2 gene on the X chromosome and mainly affects females; and

Whereas Every two hours a girl is born in the world with Rett syndrome, but its symptoms usually do not appear until 6 to 18 months later; and

Whereas Girls are generally born healthy when they begin to show signs of regression, or stagnation of milestones that would otherwise be routinely accomplished, such as losing their ability to speak, walk, losing hand control, seizures, and scoliosis; and

Whereas Apraxia is one of the most severe handicaps associated with Rett syndrome, where the mutated gene causes an inability to carry out learned purposeful movement; and

Whereas Through increased awareness and in cooperation with members of medical community, therapists, teachers, caregivers, and the general public, we will continue to pursue better treatments and an eventual cure for Rett Syndrome,

Now, Therefore, I, Deval L. Patrick, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim October 2012, to be

RETT SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH

And urge all the citizens of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this seventeenth day of September, in the year two thousand and twelve, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-sixth.

By His Excellency

DEVAL L. PATRICK
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH



WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts