


State of Iowa
Executive Department

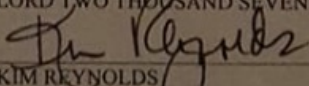
IN THE NAME AND BY THE AUTHORITY OF THE STATE OF IOWA

PROCLAMATION

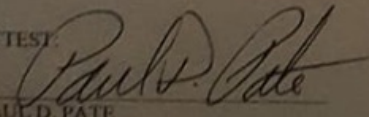
- WHEREAS,** Rett syndrome is a postnatal genetic neurological disorder that occurs almost exclusively in females; and
- WHEREAS,** every two hours, a girl is born with Rett syndrome, but its symptoms usually do not appear until six to eighteen months; and
- WHEREAS,** a regression period leads to lifelong impairments with multiple dysfunctions: speech is lost, seizures can develop and scoliosis occurs, many develop irregular breathing problems and more than half of the girls and women lose their ability to walk. The hallmark sign of Rett syndrome is near constant repetitive hand movements while awake; and
- WHEREAS,** the disorder is not degenerative and biomedical research in mice suggests that neurological symptoms may be reversed even after decades of severe symptoms; however, those diagnosed with Rett syndrome require maximum assistance with daily living activities; and
- WHEREAS,** with the discovery of the gene that causes Rett syndrome (1999), lab research that proves the theory of reversibility of the disease (2007), the discovery of breakthrough testing in vitro models (2010) and the launch of multiple disease-modifying human clinical trials, we now reach an unprecedented and historic moment in time where we must do everything possible to fund the truly life-changing research in front of us; and
- WHEREAS,** Rettsyndrome.org is the world's largest private source of funds for Rett syndrome research addressing the full spectrum of this developmental disorder while advocating to improve the quality of life for the patients and their families; and
- WHEREAS,** we must continue our efforts in bringing awareness to the medical community, therapists, teachers, caregivers and the general public. We support this shared mission now more than ever, and together, progress will continue until there is a world without Rett syndrome;
- NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kim Reynolds, Governor of the State of Iowa, do hereby proclaim October, 2017 as**

RETT SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I HAVE HERE-
UNTO SUBSCRIBED MY NAME AND CAUSED
THE GREAT SEAL OF THE STATE OF IOWA TO
BE AFFIXED. DONE AT DES MOINES THIS 17th
DAY OF OCTOBER IN THE YEAR OF OUR
LORD TWO THOUSAND SEVENTEEN.


KIM REYNOLDS
GOVERNOR OF IOWA

ATTEST:


PAUL D. PATE
SECRETARY OF STATE