

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Adrenoleukodystrophy (X-ALD) is a serious progressive, genetic disorder that affects the adrenal glands, the spinal cord, and ultimately destroys the myelin sheath, an insulating membrane that surrounds nerve cells in the brain; and,

WHEREAS, X-ALD is an X-chromosome linked disorder and affects approximately 1 in 17,000 boys worldwide, however, 20-40% of women who are carriers have symptoms in adulthood; and,

WHEREAS, the classic childhood form of X-ALD is the most severe and can begin as early as age 2 but more commonly between ages 4-10. Early symptoms include hyperactivity, difficulty at school, difficulty understanding spoken material, deterioration of handwriting, crossed eyes, and possibly seizures. As the disease progresses, further signs of damage to the white matter of the brain appear; they include changes in muscle tone, stiffness and contracture deformities, swallowing difficulties, and coma; and,

WHEREAS, the milder adult-onset form is known as Adrenomyeloneuropathy (AMN), which typically begins between 21 and 35 years of age. The disability is progressive, usually causing wheelchair dependence and life expectancy is normal, unless patients additionally develop cerebral demyelination, which is the case for about 20% of patients then the progression and outcome will be similar as seen in the childhood form; and,

WHEREAS, X-ALD has no cure, however, there are two available treatments for childhood cerebral ALD: "Lorenzo's oil" made from olive and rapeseed oil with a very low-fat diet, and stem cell transplantation through a bone marrow transplant. These are treatments that may stop the progression of the disease if diagnosed and treated early, but neither can repair the damage done by ALD once it has already begun. Treatments for the adult form of the disease are more limited. Medications can be prescribed to help relieve symptoms and physical therapy may help relieve muscle spasms and reduce muscle rigidity; and,

WHEREAS, early diagnosis is very important and newborn screenings is an effective way of early diagnosis; allowing the X-ALD child to be monitored and treated before the onset of symptoms.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT WE, THE MEMBERS OF THE ST. CHARLES PARISH COUNCIL AND THE PARISH PRESIDENT, DO HEREBY PROCLAIM THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 2016 AS

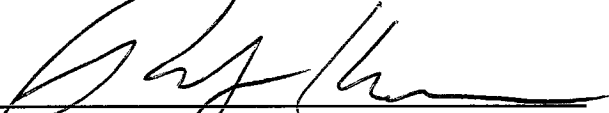
"ALD AWARENESS MONTH IN ST. CHARLES PARISH"



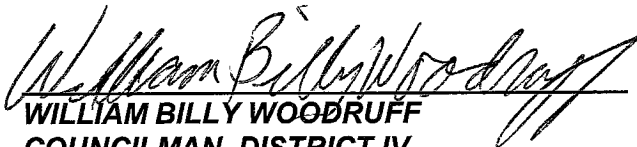
LARRY COCHRAN
PARISH PRESIDENT



WENDY BENEDETTO
COUNCILWOMAN AT LARGE, DIV. A



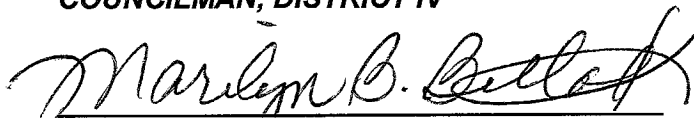
RAUL J. HOGAN, PE
COUNCILMAN AT LARGE, DIV. B



WILLIAM BILLY WOODRUFF
COUNCILMAN, DISTRICT IV



TERRELL D. WILSON
COUNCILMAN, DISTRICT I



MARILYN B. BÉLLOCK
COUNCILWOMAN, DISTRICT V



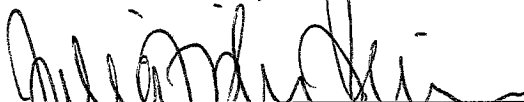
MARY K. CLULEE
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TRACI A. FLETCHER
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DICK GIBBS
COUNCILMAN, DISTRICT III



JULIA FISHER-PERRIER
COUNCILWOMAN, DISTRICT VII