



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, it is important to accurately detect and test for Phelan-McDermid Syndrome, also known as 22q13 Deletion Syndrome, which is a rare genetic condition caused by a deletion or other structural change of the terminal end of chromosome 22 in the 22q13 region or a disease-causing mutation of the *SHANK3* gene; and

WHEREAS, this microdeletion is rarely uncovered by typical genetic screening, therefore a fluorescence in situ hybridization, or FISH test, or whole exome sequencing (WES) is recommended to confirm the diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, individuals, parents and advocacy groups can increase awareness of Phelan-McDermid Syndrome and its symptoms through scientific education opportunities and informational exchange; and

WHEREAS, although the range and severity of symptoms may vary, Phelan-McDermid Syndrome is generally thought to be characterized by intellectual disability of varying degrees, delayed or absent speech, symptoms of autism spectrum disorder, low muscle tone, motor delays and epilepsy; and

WHEREAS, it is important to raise awareness of Phelan-McDermid and promote education that will help inform citizens about this disease;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim October 22, 2018, as

Phelan-McDermid 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 6th day of September 2018.

Kay Ivey
Kay Ivey, Governor