



# *Proclamation*

## *By the Governor of Alabama*

*WHEREAS, there are one in 2,229 individuals born with gastroschisis in the United States, and roughly the same number born in Alabama annually; and*

*WHEREAS, this disease may affect small numbers of people, gastroschisis affects many Americans; and*

*WHEREAS, many Americans living with gastroschisis have serious and debilitating conditions that have a significant impact on the lives of those affected including but not limited to failure to thrive/slow growth, short bowel syndrome, multiple organ transplants, and long-term feeding issues; and*

*WHEREAS, individuals and families affected by gastroschisis often experience problems such as a sense of isolation, difficulty in obtaining an accurate and timely diagnosis, few treatment options, and problems related to accessing or being reimbursed for treatment; and*

*WHEREAS, the cause of gastroschisis is relatively unknown, patients and their families must bear a large share of the burden for things such as raising funds for research; and*

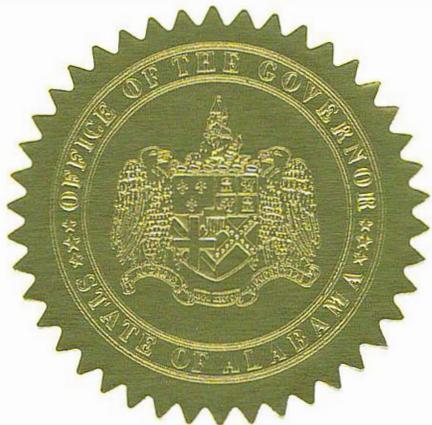
*WHEREAS, hundreds of residents of Alabama are among those affected by gastroschisis; and*

*WHEREAS, an official Awareness Day proclamation is often the precursor to funding for research and other avenues of support;*

*NOW, THEREFORE, I, Kay Ivey, Governor of Alabama, do hereby proclaim July 30, 2019, as*

# *Gastroschisis 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 11<sup>th</sup> day of June 2019.*

*Kay Ivey*  
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Kay Ivey, Governor