



Proclamation

By the Governor of Alabama

WHEREAS, esophageal cancer is one of the fastest growing cancer diagnoses in the United States, increasing more than 400% in the past 20 years, killing one American every 36 minutes each and every day; and

WHEREAS, esophageal cancer is among the deadliest cancers with fewer than one in five patients surviving five years; and

WHEREAS, despite its rapid increase and poor prognosis, esophageal cancer receives very little research funding. The National Cancer Institute Funded Research Portfolio shows esophageal cancer research distribution at less than 1% of the total cancer funding dollars; and

WHEREAS, esophageal cancer can be a silent killer with patients often unaware that the heartburn, difficult swallowing, cough, hoarse voice, sore throat or chest pain they suffer from can be reasons to discuss screening for esophageal cancer with their medical care professional; and

WHEREAS, esophageal cancer is often discovered during advanced stages, but if discovered early, chances for recovery and survival are far better, and treatments for the disease include surgery, chemotherapy, radiation, laser therapy and electrocoagulation; and

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

Esophageal Cancer Awareness Month

in the State of Alabama to raise awareness and encourage all citizens to pay attention to esophageal cancer symptoms in order to promote early detection and treatment.



*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 26th day of March 2018.*

Kay Ivey
Kay Ivey, Governor