

Proclamation



Bob Buckhorn, Mayor

WHEREAS, seizures and epilepsy are major national health problems with experts informing us that approximately one in ten individuals will have at least one seizure during their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, a seizure is a sudden, brief attack of altered consciousness, motor activity or sensory phenomena, and is a sign that certain brain cells (neurons) are discharging an excessive amount of electrical impulses; and

WHEREAS, epilepsy is a common and diverse set of chronic neurological disorders characterized by seizures, and although in many of the cases the cause is unknown, it often can be attributed to brain tumor, lack of oxygen at birth, injury to the brain, infection or brain hemorrhage; and

WHEREAS, seizures affect an estimated 3 million people of all ages in the United States of America, and 200,000 new cases of epilepsy are diagnosed each year in the nation with children and the elderly affected in almost equal proportions, and approximately 22,000 Americans die each year from non-stop seizures; and

WHEREAS, the **Florida Epilepsy Services**, established in 1973, is a private, non-profit organization that raises awareness and educates persons with epilepsy, families and caregivers, community organizations, businesses, and school personnel about the medical disorder, and its mission is *creating a better future and environment for persons affected by epilepsy*, and its supportive programs and services promote healthy lifestyle choices for persons with seizure disorders and help individuals and families better cope with the effects of this medical condition; and

WHEREAS, organizations around the world, including Florida Epilepsy Services are joining the grassroots campaign to increase awareness about epilepsy by annually declaring March 26th as Purple Day for Epilepsy Awareness whereby people are invited to wear the color purple and host supportive events.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Bob Buckhorn, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim Sunday, March 26, 2017 as

“PURPLE DAY FOR EPILEPSY AWARENESS”

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to join me in thanking Florida Epilepsy Services and healthcare professionals for their efforts to improve the lives of persons affected by epilepsy, and wear purple on March 26th in support of this awareness initiative.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 16th day of February, 2017.



Bob Buckhorn

Mayor