**How to Get Your Governor to declare May 5 as 5p- Syndrome Awareness Day**

Before we know it, May will be here and that means 5P- SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY!

For those of you who live in the United States, here is how to request a proclamation from your Governor requesting that they declare May 5 as 5p- Syndrome Awareness Day.

* First, just because a Governor declared May 5 as 5p- Syndrome Awareness Day in 2024 or any previous year – you still will have to ask in 2025 **and all future years!**
* Start Early – the best thing to do is make your request before March 1 as most states say it takes up to six weeks to determine whether or not the request will be granted and to issue the Proclamation.
* Do a google search “Governor OF STATE?” (for ***your*** state) This will take you to the Governor’s website.
* On the Governor’s website, on the home page search for “Request a Proclamation” – usually there will be an online form to request the proclamation.
* You are the “requestor” – the requesting organization is “The 5p-Society”
* Sample language is below – ALL STATES WILL ASK YOU TO PROVIDE LANGUAGE.
* Some states do not have online forms – so when you search for “Request a Proclamation” you will be directed to an office – call there and ask how to send an email request for a proclamation.
* Keep a copy of the request and write down the date you submitted it. This will be helpful when you call or email to follow up the request. I suggest that you do this about 2 weeks after you submit the request. Be prepared to call back several times!
* You may have to call a general phone number from the web page and ask to speak with the person who handles requests for proclamations.
* And remember, Governors get hundreds of requests every month for them to declare given days so if the request is turned down, do not take it personally!
* If you run into issues, feel free to email me at Jaggerwatt@hotmail.com
* ALSO, WHEN YOU REQUEST A PROCLAMATION, PLEASE EMAIL ME AND LET ME KNOW AS I TRACK THE REQUESTS!

**May 5, 2024 – 5P- Awareness Day**

Whereas, the 5p- Society of North America, along with support organizations from over 30 countries around the world are proud to announce that the month of May will be designated as International 5P- Syndrome Awareness month.

*Whereas, May 5 has been designated internationally as 5p- Syndrome Day.*

Whereas, Individuals with 5p- Syndrome deserve to be recognized for what they can do versus what they cannot do, and our hope is that we can raise awareness, of 5P- Syndrome, by spreading our message to each and every person we meet.

 Whereas, each year in the United States alone, approximately 50 to 60 children are born with ***5p- Syndrome*** (five p minus), also known as ***Cat Cry*** Syndrome or ***Cri du Chat*** Syndrome. Some common characteristics of 5P- Syndrome at birth are a high-pitched cry, low birth weight, poor muscle tone, microcephaly, and potential medical complications. "5p-" is a term used by geneticists to describe a portion of chromosome number five that is missing in these individuals.

Whereas, one of the goals of 5P- Syndrome Awareness Week is to end the outdated misinformation given to families when their child is diagnosed with 5p- Syndrome.

 Whereas, children born with this rare genetic defect will most likely require ongoing support from a team of parents, therapists, and medical and educational professionals to help the child achieve his or her maximum potential.

 Whereas, there are many families with family members with 5P- Syndrome living in (FILL IN YOUR STATE) with the syndrome that are members of the 5p- Society and over 1,000 families in the Country.

 Resolved, I Governor XX declare May 5, 2025, as 5P- Syndrome Awareness Day in NAME OF STATE.