



WHEREAS, Myalgic Encephalomyelitis (ME) also sometimes known as Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) is a serious, chronic, complex, multisystem disease that frequently and dramatically limits the activities of affected patients and causes a substantial reduction of occupational, educational, social and personal activities; and

WHEREAS, ME is a disease that affects many body systems and is characterized primarily by rapid physical and/or cognitive exhaustion in response to even minimal exertion from activities of daily living or simple mental tasks; and

WHEREAS, fifty to seventy-five percent of those suffering from this devastating neurological condition cannot work or attend school; twenty-five percent are bedridden or house bound; and

WHEREAS, there is no diagnostic test, no FDA approved treatment, and no cure for ME; and

WHEREAS, ME affects approximately 1 to 2.5 million people in the United States and 19,000 to 43,000 in Colorado ranging from young children to the elderly; and

WHEREAS, the resulting annual economic burden due to medical expenses and lost productivity in Colorado is between \$297 million to \$419 million; and

WHEREAS, May 12th is recognized around the world as ME awareness day; and

WHEREAS, the State of Colorado encourages support of all organizations that provide programs, support groups, medical research and medical conferences throughout the state in order to support patients who struggle daily to cope with this life robbing disease;

NOW, THEREFORE, Jared Polis, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim May 12, 2020 as

MYALGIC ENCEPHALOMYELITIS AWARENESS DAY

in the State of Colorado.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this first day of May, 2020

A blue ink signature of Jared Polis, written in a cursive style.

Jared Polis
Governor