

STATE OF OREGON
PROCLAMATION
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

- WHEREAS:** Usher Syndrome is a relatively rare and incurable genetic disorder affecting more than 400,000 people worldwide, with as many as 25,000 in the United States; and
- WHEREAS:** Usher Syndrome is caused by a mutation in any one of at least ten genes resulting in a combination of hearing loss and visual impairment, and is a leading cause of combined deafness and blindness; and
- WHEREAS:** Children with Usher Syndrome are born with or develop hearing loss. It is estimated that upward of ten percent of people with congenital bilateral, sensorineural hearing loss have Usher Syndrome; and
- WHEREAS:** Because of limited public awareness, those affected with Usher Syndrome may suffer from depression, anxiety, isolation, and loss of independence; and
- WHEREAS:** The Usher Syndrome community is uniting around the world to spread public awareness but especially to be recognized annually on the third Saturday of September.

NOW,

THEREFORE: I, Kate Brown, Governor of the State of Oregon, hereby proclaim **September 18, 2021** to be

USHER SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY

in Oregon and encourage all Oregonians to join in this observance.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I hereunto set my hand and cause the Great Seal of the State of Oregon to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Salem in the State of Oregon on this day, August 30, 2021.



Kate Brown, Governor

Shemia Fagan, Secretary of State