

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS: Lupus is a chronic autoimmune disease in which the immune system inexplicably and randomly attacks the body's own tissues and vital organs, including the kidneys, brain, heart, lungs, blood, skin, and joints; and

WHEREAS: Lupus directly affects 1.5 million people in the United States with thousands of new diagnoses every year, the majority of whom are young people and 90 percent are women. Lupus disproportionately affects women of color and is more prevalent in African Americans, Hispanics, Native Americans, and Asians; and

WHEREAS: Lupus is one of the most difficult diseases to diagnose because its intermittent symptoms may mimic those of other diseases, and no single test can definitively identify the illness. Yet, early diagnosis and treatment can lessen the progression and severity of the disease and are vital to preserving patient health; and

WHEREAS: Awareness of lupus symptoms and health effects can contribute to early diagnoses and the prevention of years of suffering. Increasing public awareness and focusing public attention on lupus and its devastating impact on patients' lives will provide hope for a better future for those affected.

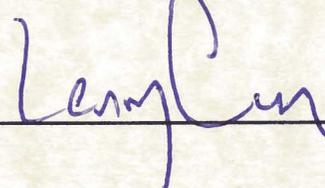
NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY, by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim May 2019 as

LUPUS AWARENESS MONTH

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to increase awareness and understanding of lupus and support efforts to improve quality of life for those affected.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 3rd day of April
in the year Two Thousand 19


MAYOR

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA