

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS:** Childhood Apraxia of Speech (CAS) is a neurological speech disorder caused by the brain's inability to send accurate messages to the muscles, directly affecting the lips, tongue and jaw, making it extremely difficult for a child to communicate language, regardless of comprehension; and
- WHEREAS:** CAS affects approximately 1 in 1,000 children, and its symptoms cause neurological, social, developmental, and emotional challenges; and
- WHEREAS:** Treatment for CAS, which is often not covered by insurance companies, leaves families without the resources for proper diagnosis or intensive therapy; and
- WHEREAS:** As an under-recognized and often misdiagnosed condition, the symptoms of CAS can lead to educational disparities and social challenges, including victimization and the development of other coping behaviors; and
- WHEREAS:** The Childhood Apraxia of Speech Association of North America (CASANA), is a national nonprofit organization that supports children and families who suffer from apraxia; and
- WHEREAS:** CASANA is currently the only organization dedicated solely to the support of children with CAS through education, research funding, and advocacy services; and
- WHEREAS:** On May 14, 2016, CASANA will observe the third annual National Apraxia Awareness Day to promote increase understanding of this little known disease.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, LENNY CURRY, by virtue of the authority vested in me as mayor of Jacksonville, Florida, do hereby proclaim May 2016 as

APRAXIA AWARENESS MONTH

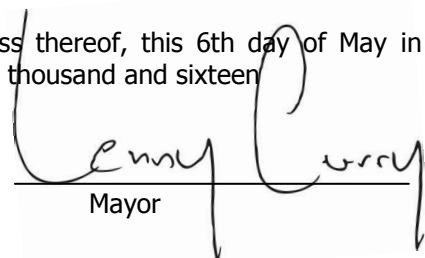
and hereby designate May 14, 2016, as

APRAXIA AWARENESS DAY

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to help improve the awareness of apraxia and support organizations like CASANA who serve CAS patients and their families.in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to learn more about life insurance and its benefits.



In witness thereof, this 6th day of May in the year two thousand and sixteen


Mayor