



# PROCLAMATION

ONE CITY. ONE JACKSONVILLE.

- WHEREAS:** Spinal Muscle Atrophy (SMA) is a disease that affects motor nerve cells in the spinal cord, inhibiting the ability to walk, eat, or breathe; and
- WHEREAS:** SMA is caused by a mutation in the survival motor neuron gene that produces proteins critical to nerve function and muscle control; and
- WHEREAS:** The genetic mutation affects approximately 1 in 11,000 babies and is the number one genetic cause of death for infants under the age of two; and
- WHEREAS:** One in 50 Americans is a genetic carrier of SMA which can affect any race, ethnicity, or gender. Increased awareness of SMA has expanded treatments that target the underlying genetics of SMA; and
- WHEREAS:** Continued support and attentiveness to SMA research will further enhance treatments and breakthroughs to prevent the detrimental effects of the condition; and
- WHEREAS:** The nonprofit organization Cure SMA, which has a Greater Florida chapter, works to raise money for SMA research programs, leading to clinical trials and the discovery of treatments that provide new hope to families and patients.

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

## SMA AWARENESS MONTH

in Jacksonville and encourage all citizens to learn about this debilitating disease and support efforts leading to new treatments for those affected.



IN WITNESS THEREOF, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of July  
in the year Two Thousand Nineteen

*Lenny Curry*

MAYOR

CITY OF JACKSONVILLE, FLORIDA