



Proclamation

Presented this 1st day of November 2017

WHEREAS, Antitrypsin Deficiency (Alpha1) is one of the most common serious hereditary disorders in the world and can result in life threatening liver disease in children and adults or lung disease in adults; and,

WHEREAS, Alpha1 has been identified in virtually all populations; and,

WHEREAS, an estimated 100,000 children and adults in the United States have the severe deficiency and up to six percent of caucasians in the U.S. carry a single deficient gene and may pass the gene on to their children; and,

WHEREAS, Alpha1 is widely underdiagnosed and misdiagnosed with fewer than 10 percent of those predicted to have Alpha1 receiving an accurate diagnosis; it often takes an average of five doctors and seven years from the time symptoms first appear before proper diagnosis is made; and,

WHEREAS, Alpha1 is easily detected using a simple test; and,

WHEREAS, Alpha1 is the most common known genetic risk factor for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), a lung disease that is the most frequent cause of disability and early death among affected persons;

*THEREFORE, I, Bruce Rauner, Governor of the State of Illinois, do hereby recognize November 2017 as **ALPHA1 AWARENESS MONTH** in Illinois to raise awareness of Antitrypsin Deficiency (Alpha1) and to recognize the importance of finding a cure and improving the lives of people affected by this disease.*



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Bruce Rauner".

Bruce Rauner
Governor, State of Illinois

