

# The State of Maryland



## Proclamation

*From the Governor of the State of Maryland*

**ALPHA-1 AWARENESS MONTH  
NOVEMBER 2018**

- WHEREAS,** *Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency (Alpha-1) is one of the most common and serious hereditary disorders in the world and can result in life threatening lung disease in adults and liver disease in both children and adults; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Alpha-1 has been identified in nearly all populations and ethnic groups, it is estimated that about one in every 2,500 Americans has Alpha-1 and up to 6 percent of Caucasians in the U.S. carry a single deficient gene and may pass the gene onto their children; and*
- WHEREAS,** *Alpha-1 is widely under diagnosed and misdiagnosed, and fewer than 10 percent of those predicted to have Alpha-1 have been diagnosed, and it often takes an average of five doctors and seven years from the time symptoms appear before proper diagnosis is made, which can be done using a simple blood test; and*
- WHEREAS,** *It is important to increase awareness and detection of this serious hereditary and misdiagnosed disorder; and*
- WHEREAS,** *During the month of November, a nationwide awareness campaign will take place through the country to educate the public as well as the medical community on Alpha-1 detection and treatment for those affected by this condition; and*

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, LAWRENCE J. HOGAN, JR., GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF MARYLAND, do hereby proclaim NOVEMBER 2018 as ALPHA-1 AWARENESS MONTH in Maryland, and do commend this observance to all our citizens.**



Given Under My Hand and the Great Seal of the State of Maryland,  
this 10<sup>th</sup> day of  
November  
Two Thousand and eighteen

*Lawrence J. Hogan, Jr.*  
Governor

*Robert K. Wittig*  
Lt. Governor

*John C. Winkler*  
Secretary of State