STATE OF INDIANA
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
INDIANAPOLIS

PROCLAMATION

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS MAY COME, GREETINGS:

WHEREAS, nearly 7,000 diseases and conditions, each affecting fewer than 200,000 Americans, are considered rare in the United States; and

WHEREAS, while each of these diseases may affect small numbers of people, rare diseases as a group affect almost 30 million Americans; and

WHEREAS, individuals and families affected by rare diseases often experience problems such as diagnosis delay, difficulty finding a medical expert, and lack of access to treatments or services; and

WHEREAS, while the public is familiar with some rare diseases such as Lou Gehrig’s disease and sympathetic to those affected, many patients and families affected by less widely known rare diseases bear a large share of the burden of funding research and raising public awareness to support the search for treatments; and

WHEREAS, the National Organization for Rare Disorders is organizing a nationwide observance of Rare Disease Day on February 28, 2015; and

WHEREAS, thousands of patients and caregivers, medical professionals, researchers, medical companies, and others in the state of Indiana will participate in that observance;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Michael R. Pence, Governor of the State of Indiana, do hereby proclaim February 28, 2015 as

RARE DISEASE DAY

in the State of Indiana, and invite all citizens to duly note this occasion.

In Testimony Whereof, I have set my hand and cause to be affixed the Great Seal of State. Done at the City of Indianapolis, this 1st day of February in the year of our Lord 2015 and of the Independence of the United States 239.

BY THE GOVERNOR: [Signature]