

## Proclamation/Declaration of March as Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month

WHEREAS, I, \_\_\_\_\_, County Council Member of \_\_\_\_\_, am proud to commemorate March 2021 as Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month in the County of \_\_\_\_\_; and

WHEREAS, this designation will formalize and expand upon the designation 35 years ago of March 1986 as “Hemophilia Awareness Month” by President Ronald Reagan; and

WHEREAS, the federal Department of Health and Human Services designated March 2016 as National Bleeding Disorders Month; and

WHEREAS, Multiple states and local governments, since 2016, have passed a proclamation/resolution declaring March as Bleeding Disorders Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, Bleeding disorder advocates, during this month, wear a red material around their neck (e.g. leis, scarves, ties); and

WHEREAS, These bleeding disorders, which share the inability to form a proper blood clot, are characterized by extended bleeding after injury, surgery, trauma or menstruation and can lead to significant morbidity and can be fatal if not treated effectively; and

WHEREAS, many individuals with hemophilia became infected with HIV and Hepatitis C in the 1980s due to the contamination of the blood supply and blood products; and

WHEREAS, this Awareness Month in \_\_\_\_\_ will generate greater awareness and understanding of not only hemophilia but all inheritable bleeding disorders, including von Willebrand disease—which alone impacts an estimated one percent of the U.S. population or more than 3.2 million individuals; and

WHEREAS, this Awareness Month will foster a greater sense of community and shared purpose among individuals with all inheritable bleeding disorders; and

WHEREAS, this Awareness Month will elevate awareness of and engagement in the inheritable bleeding disorders journey beyond our community to the general public, enabling the prevention of illness, unnecessary procedures, and disability; now

THEREFORE, I, \_\_\_\_\_, County Council Member of \_\_\_\_\_ do hereby proclaim the month of March 2021, as: **BLEEDING DISORDERS AWARENESS MONTH** in the County of \_\_\_\_\_