

Commonwealth of Massachusetts



A Proclamation

His Excellency Governor Deval L. Patrick

Whereas Von Hippel-Lindau, abbreviated VHL, is a the abnormal growth of blood vessels in parts of the body; and

Whereas Von Hippel-Lindau is a rare, genetic, multi-system disorder characterized by the abnormal growth of tumors in certain parts of the body such as the retina, inner ear, adrenal glands, pancreas, brain, kidneys and the spinal cord and,

Whereas This genetic condition impacts one out of every 32,000 births, 20 percent of which are new mutations, and 80 percent of which are hereditary; and

Whereas Although there is no cure for VHL, with early detection and careful monitoring along with advances made in DNA information, more hope exists today for families with von Hippel-Lindau than ever before; and

Whereas Through public awareness, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts seeks to minimize the devastating effects of VHL among all Massachusetts citizens,

Now, Therefore, I, Deval L. Patrick, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim May 2011, to be

VON HIPPEL-LINDAU AWARENESS MONTH

And urge all the citizens of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, twenty-first day of March, in the year two thousand and eleven, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and thirty-fourth.



By His Excellency

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Deval L. Patrick'.

DEVAL L. PATRICK
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'William Francis Galvin'.

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts