\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ (date)

Governor's First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name

Address

City, State Zip

Dear Governor (insert Last Name):

We respectfully request that you designate November as Alpha-1 Awareness Month in the state of \_\_\_\_\_. Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency (Alpha-1) 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. Alpha-1 has been identified in virtually all populations.  An estimated 100,000 children and adults in the U.S. have a severe deficiency. and have the severe deficiency. Researchers estimate there are at least 20 million carriers of the single gene defect in the U.S. that may pass it on to their children.

Alpha-1 is widely underdiagnosed and misdiagnosed. Fewer than 10% of those predicted to have Alpha-1 have been accurately diagnosed. It often takes an average of five doctors and seven years from the time symptoms first appear before a proper diagnosis is made. However, Alpha-1 is easily detected using a simple test.

Alpha-1 is the most common known genetic risk factor for Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), the 3rd leading cause of death in the U.S., only behind heart disease and cancer. Lung disease is the most frequent cause of disability and early death among affected Alphas, striking in the prime of life and a major reason for lung transplants.

Alpha-1 originates in the liver and can lead to liver failure at any time in life. It is the leading genetic cause of liver transplantation in children. Currently, the only treatment for liver disease of Alpha-1 is a liver transplant.

Please support our mission to bring awareness to our great state of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ by declaring November 2025 as Alpha-1 Awareness Month. We will be conducting various awareness activities throughout the state to educate both the medical community and citizens on this serious and often fatal disease.

On behalf of the Alpha-1 community,I am asking that you declare November 2025 Alpha-1 Awareness Month.

Your consideration is very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Joe Q. Alpha

Support Group Leader/Advocate

(Your State) Alpha-1 Support Group

Address – City, State, Zip

Telephone Number