



Proclamation

WHEREAS, lead experts agree that more than an estimated 10,000 rare diseases are affecting about 30 million people in the United States, according to the National Institute of Health (NIH); and

WHEREAS, many rare diseases are serious and debilitating conditions that have a significant impact on the lives of those affected; and

WHEREAS, while more than 450 drugs and biologics have been approved for the treatment of rare diseases according to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), millions of Americans still have rare diseases for which there is no approved treatment; and

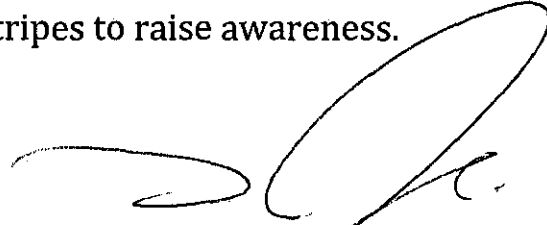
WHEREAS, individuals and families affected by rare diseases often experience problems such as diagnosis delay, difficulty finding a medical expert, and lack of access to treatments or ancillary services; and

WHEREAS, while the public is familiar with some rare diseases, 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, residents of Watchung are among those affected by rare diseases because nearly ten percent of Americans have a rare disease; and

WHEREAS, the National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD) is organizing a nationwide observance of Rare Disease Day on February 28, 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that I, Ronald Jubin, Mayor of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, do hereby declare Friday, February 28, 2023 as "**RARE DISEASE DAY**" in the Borough of Watchung and encourage all residents to learn about the unique challenges faced by those with rare diseases and help #ShowYourStripes to raise awareness.



*Ronald Jubin, Ph.D. Mayor
February 16, 2023*