



Proclamation #16-105

Myositis Awareness – May 2016

Whereas Myositis is a general term describing a number of Idiopathic Inflammatory Myopathies, which are rare diseases affecting only 50-75k people in the United States and are thought to be autoimmune in nature causing muscle weakness, inflammation, pain, skin rashes, lung disease, impairment in swallowing, and life-altering fatigue; and

Whereas There is no cure for any form of Myositis and very few and limited treatment options, which can have harsh side effects; and

Whereas For patients to have the best chance of remission and overall outcome, it is recommended that treatment begin within weeks of symptom onset or diagnosis. Partly due to the rarity of Myositis, and partly due to its similarities to other conditions, a diagnosis is often delayed or misdiagnosed causing treatment postponement that may lead to permanent muscle loss and disability; and

Whereas Education and support for patients, caregivers, and healthcare providers is essential to the overall health of patients; and

Whereas Myositis can affect both children and adults of all ages with symptoms developing over weeks, months, or years while often mimicking other less-rare diseases; and

Whereas Raising awareness and funding are important factors in advancing research, developing new, less damaging treatments, and reaching towards the ultimate goal of finding a cure for Myositis; and

Whereas The Town of Surfside Beach would like to join the Nation in raising awareness of Myositis,

Now, Therefore, I, Douglas F. Samples, Mayor of the Town of Surfside Beach, do hereby proclaim May 2016, to be,

MYOSITIS AWARENESS MONTH

in the Town of Surfside Beach, and call upon all citizens of Surfside Beach to learn more about Myositis and advocate for increased funding for research, education, and support programs.

BE IT SO PROCLAIMED this 26th day of April 2016.

s/

The Hon. Douglas F. Samples
Mayor, Town of Surfside Beach

Attest: s/
Debra E. Herrmann, CMC, Town Clerk