

WHEREAS, Epilepsy, also known as Seizure Disorder, has afflicted mankind since the dawn of our species and has been recognized since the earliest medical writings; and

WHEREAS, as long ago as 400 B.C., Hippocrates, the Father of Medicine, repudiated ancient beliefs that Epilepsy was a visitation from the gods and sacred or that it was a curse from the gods that people afflicted with this disorder held prophetic powers. Hippocrates believed that Epilepsy was a brain disorder; and

WHEREAS, Epilepsy can be caused by injury to the brain, lack of oxygen at birth, brain tumor, infection and brain hemorrhage. In sixty percent of the cases, the cause is unknown; and

WHEREAS, Epilepsy can affect anyone, at any age and at any time; and

WHEREAS, more than two million Americans are afflicted with some type of Epilepsy. Of this number, 150,000 are Florida residents; and

WHEREAS, with the administration of anti convulsant drugs, two-thirds (66.66%) of those afflicted with Epilepsy are drug controlled; and

WHEREAS, lack of education about this disorder has contributed to age old myths, superstitions and prejudices; and

WHEREAS, people who have Epilepsy make reliable and conscientious worker in job performance, productivity, safety, cooperation and attendance; and

WHEREAS, studies carried out in the United States over the past thirty years have indicated that of all disabilities, EPILEPSY poses the greatest barrier to employment, with unemployment rates estimated to fall between twenty and twenty-five percent.

NOW, THEREFORE BE PROCLAIMED that the Mayor and Town Council of the Town of Davie do hereby proclaim the month of November, 2001 as:

“NATIONAL EPILEPSY AWARENESS MONTH”

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 17th day of October, 2001.

Harry Venis, Mayor