

Proclamation

by

Andy Beshear
Governor

of the

Commonwealth of Kentucky



To All To Whom These Presents Shall Come:

WHEREAS, Millions of Americans are impacted by the hepatitis A virus (HAV), hepatitis B virus (HBV) and hepatitis C virus (HCV), which cause infection to the liver, including an estimated 42,500 Kentuckians living with HCV, approximately 200 HBV cases reported to the state each year, and more than 5,000 HAV cases reported to the state since 2017; and

WHEREAS, Greater than half of Kentuckians living with viral hepatitis are unaware they are infected, thereby increasing their risk for cirrhosis, liver cancer and death, although with early detection hepatitis B can be treated and hepatitis C can be cured, saving lives; and

WHEREAS, The current epidemic of opioid and other substance use, further worsened by the COVID-19 pandemic, is increasing transmission of these viruses; and

WHEREAS, The CDC recommends that all adults aged 18 years and older and pregnant women be screened for HCV, and that all at-risk individuals be screened for HBV, including people born in regions of the world where HBV is common, and that people who inject drugs, and pregnant women and all children and all at-risk adults be vaccinated against HAV and HBV; and

WHEREAS, The CDC recommends education of the public and healthcare professionals regarding hepatitis prevention, testing, and treatment and the development of systems to conduct viral hepatitis surveillance; and

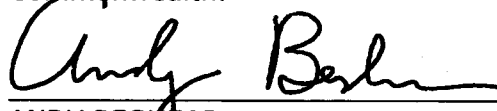
WHEREAS, The month of May is designated as Hepatitis Awareness Month;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ANDY BESHEAR, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby proclaim May 19, 2021, as

HEPATITIS TESTING DAY

in Kentucky.

DONE AT THE CAPITOL, in the City of Frankfort the 7th day of May, in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand Twenty-One and in the 229th year of the Commonwealth.


ANDY BESHEAR
GOVERNOR


Michael G. Adams
Secretary of State

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DATE

5/11/2021

MICHAEL G. ADAMS

SECRETARY OF STATE

COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY

BY

Sarah M. Burgin