WHEREAS, necrotizing fasciitis was first described in medical literature in 1883 by Fournier and originally was described as a disease of unknown origin that caused gangrene or cell death of the scrotum; and

WHEREAS, necrotizing fasciitis is an uncommon clinical disease often referred to in the popular media as the “flesh eating bug or virus;” and

WHEREAS, the most common causes of the disease are the bacteria group A hemolytic, Streptococcus pyogenes and Staphylococcus aureus, either alone or in combination; and

WHEREAS, other cases of this disease are reported to be caused by other types of bacteria, including those naturally found within the intestines of otherwise healthy individuals; and

WHEREAS, necrotizing fasciitis can occur in any age group and is most commonly associated with surgical procedures, but may be found in those with diabetes mellitus, atherosclerotic vascular disease, malignancy and hypertension; and

WHEREAS, in rare occasions it may occur following minor cuts or tears to the skin; and

WHEREAS, although it can occur anywhere on the body, the disease is most commonly found on the abdomen, arms, legs, extremities and face, particularly around the eyes; and

WHEREAS, while progress has been made in understanding the symptoms and better diagnosing the disease there is still much to learn about necrotizing fasciitis, but with increased research and education the goal of discovering the cause, improving treatment and finding a cure are attainable;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, C.L. “BUTCH” OTTER, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim May 31, 2017 to be

NECROTIZING FASCIITIS AWARENESS DAY

in Idaho.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 31st day of May, in the year of our Lord two thousand and seventeen and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred forty-first and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred twenty-seventh.

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C.L. “BUTCH” OTTER
GOVERNOR

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LAWERENCE DENNEY
SECRETARY OF STATE