



Executive Department
State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor
Proclamation

State Capitol
Boise

Rare Disease Day

WHEREAS, there are nearly 7,000 diseases and conditions considered rare, each affecting fewer than 200,000 Americans, but rare diseases as a group affect almost 30 million Americans; and

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

WHEREAS, while approximately 340 drugs and biologics have been approved for the treatment of rare diseases, affecting between 11 million and 14 million people, according to the Food and Drug Administration well over 15 million Americans with rare diseases have no treatment specific to their disease; and

WHEREAS, individuals and families affected by rare diseases often experience problems such as a sense of isolation, difficulty in obtaining an accurate and timely diagnosis, few treatment options, and problems related to accessing or being reimbursed for treatment; and

WHEREAS, thousands of Idaho residents are among those affected by rare diseases, since nearly 1 in 10 Americans have rare diseases; and

WHEREAS, the National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD) is organizing a nationwide observance of Rare Disease Day on February 28, 2010, and patients, medical professionals, researchers, government officials and companies developing treatments for rare diseases are joining together to focus attention on rare diseases as a public health issue on that day;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim February 28, 2011 to be

RARE DISEASE 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 28th day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand and eleven and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred thirty-fifth and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred twenty-first.

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
GOVERNOR

BEN YURSA
SECRETARY OF STATE