

P R O C L A M A T I O N

WHEREAS, epilepsy is a brain disorder that causes recurring unprovoked seizures; and

WHEREAS, epilepsy is the fourth most common neurological disorder, 1 in 26 will be diagnosed with epilepsy within their lifetime, and in Virginia there are approximately 85,000 individuals with epilepsy and over 11,000 of them are children; and

WHEREAS, Epilepsy Awareness Month is a nationwide effort to raise awareness about epilepsy, seizures, and side effects, as well as ways to improve the lives of people affected by epilepsy through education, advocacy, research and connection; and

WHEREAS, the public is often unable to recognize common seizure types, or how to respond with appropriate first aid; and

WHEREAS, protections exist in the Americans with Disabilities Act and related civil rights laws but people with epilepsy still encounter discrimination in areas including employment, education, and housing; and

WHEREAS, we must increase public knowledge about epilepsy and seizure first aid to change the way people think about epilepsy and seizures, decrease stigma and improve outcomes because 25% of the general public say they would be nervous around a person with epilepsy; and

WHEREAS, despite challenges, people with epilepsy can live happy, healthy, and productive lives with proper medical care and treatment; and

WHEREAS, during Epilepsy Awareness Month, residents of Alexandria are encouraged to learn more about this neurological disorder and support organizations that promote epilepsy research, prevention, treatment, and a cure.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ALYIA GASKINS, Mayor of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, and on behalf of the Alexandria City Council, do hereby proclaim November 2025 as:

“EPILEPSY AWARENESS MONTH”

In the City of Alexandria and encourage residents of Alexandria to take action together so no one faces epilepsy alone.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Alexandria to be affixed this 12th day of November 2025.

MAYOR ALYIA GASKINS

On behalf of the City Council
of Alexandria, Virginia

ATTEST:

Gloria Sitton, CMC City Clerk