

WHEREAS, multiple sclerosis (MS) is a neurological disease of the central nervous system, affecting at least 2.3 million people worldwide; and

WHEREAS, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society – Northern California Chapter reports that in our state, we serve more than 12,000 people diagnosed with MS, and that the disease generally strikes people in the prime of life, between ages 20 through 50, and causes unpredictable effects in which the progression, severity and specific symptoms cannot be foreseen, and the cause and cure for this often debilitating disease remain unknown; and

WHEREAS, the National Multiple Sclerosis Society – Northern California Chapter has been committed for more than 58 years to creating a world free of MS, heightening public knowledge about and insight into the disease while mobilizing people and resources so that everyone affected by MS can live their best lives as we stop MS in its tracks, restore what has been lost and end MS forever; and

WHEREAS, Since 1946 the National Multiple Sclerosis Society has been a driving force of MS research, relentlessly pursuing prevention, treatment and a cure and has invested more than 920 million dollars in groundbreaking research; and

WHEREAS, Funds raised through the National Multiple Sclerosis Society fuel the efforts of more than 380 research projects globally totaling nearly 54 million dollars annually at the best medical centers, universities and other institutions throughout the United States and abroad. Because of this, MS research has never been more hopeful than it is today; and

WHEREAS, discovering the cause, finding a cure, and preventing future generations from being diagnosed with MS is an important task that all Americans and Californians should support; and

WHEREAS, Santa Rosa, California recognizes the importance of finding the cause and cure of MS, a chronic and often devastating disease, and expresses its appreciation and admiration for the dedication that the National Multiple Sclerosis Society – Northern California has shown toward a future free of MS.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT, I, John Sawyer, Mayor of Santa Rosa and on behalf of the City Council, do hereby proclaim March 7 through 13, 2016 as

MS Awareness Week

Mayor John Sawyer March 8, 2016