

WHEREAS, *childhood cancer is the second leading cause of death among children aged 1-14 in the United States, with more than 15,000 new cases annually, and approximately 1 in every 285 children diagnosed before the age of 20; and*

WHEREAS, *despite technological advancements, nearly 1,800 children pass each year from childhood cancers, making it the leading cause of disease-leading death for U.S children; and*

WHEREAS, *families of children with cancer often endure financial, physical and emotional struggles. While also balancing hospital visits, treatments, and uncertainty with daily responsibilities, often requiring the support of close friends and relatives; and*

WHEREAS, *children undergoing treatment demonstrate extraordinary courage in the face of painful and exhausting procedures, and their resilience reminds us of the importance of compassion, encouragement, and creating joyful moments even in the darkest of times; and*

WHEREAS, *the journey to fight childhood cancer is not fought alone as parents, siblings, healthcare providers, educators, and community leaders stand behind these children. They offer strength and foster hope, while researchers and advocates push tirelessly towards better treatments and cures; and*

WHEREAS, *during this month and all year, we urge Fresno's residents to raise awareness, promote education, and support organizations that provide essential care and conduct lifesaving research; and*

WHEREAS, *it is with heavy hearts that we dedicate this proclamation to one of our youngest constituents, Henry John Abels Rodriguez, who tragically passed away from Childhood Cancer. Henry was a courageous boy who cherished every moment spent with his family and found joy in listening to music, hugging his stuffed animals and playing with his beloved shake shakes.*

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, *that we, Mayor Jerry P. Dyer, Councilmember Annalisa Perea, and the Fresno City Councilmembers encourage all residents, businesses, and organizations to join us in raising awareness, supporting families, and striving for a future where every child has the chance to grow up healthy and cancer-free. We do hereby proclaim the of October 2025 to be:*

"Childhood Cancer Awareness"

in the City of Fresno.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, *we have hereunto set our hands and affixed the seal of the City of Fresno, California, on this 30th day of October 2025.*