

PROCLAMATION

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA

WHEREAS, melanoma is the most serious type of skin cancer, it develops from the cells that produce pigment in the skin, and it affects individuals of all ages, races, and skin tones, making awareness and prevention a shared responsibility for our entire community; and

WHEREAS, Florida ranks second in the nation for new melanoma cases, with rising incidence rates reported by the American Cancer Society, due in part to year-round sun exposure from outdoor recreation and occupations that increase the risk of skin cancer; and

WHEREAS, early detection and prevention are critical, as the five-year survival rate for melanoma is 99% when detected early, but drops significantly once the cancer spreads to other parts of the body; and

WHEREAS, melanoma is highly treatable in its early stages, yet many Floridians remain unaware of its signs and symptoms; and

WHEREAS, Melanoma Awareness Month serves as an opportunity to support those affected by the disease, honor the lives lost, promote regular skin checks for early detection, and encourage sun-safe behaviors such as using sunscreen, wearing protective clothing, and avoiding overexposure to ultraviolet (UV) rays;

NOW THEREFORE, the Board of County Commissioners of Marion County, Florida, by virtue of the authority vested in us do hereby proclaim that **May, 2025** be known as

“MELANOMA AWARENESS MONTH”

DULY PROCLAIMED this 6th day of **May, 2025**.

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MARION COUNTY, FLORIDA**

KATHY BRYANT, CHAIRMAN

CARL ZALAK, III, VICE CHAIR

MICHELLE STONE, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST:

CRAIG CURRY, COMMISSIONER

GREGORY C. HARRELL, CLERK

MATT MCCLAIN, COMMISSIONER