

## **PROCLAMATION**

**WHEREAS**, Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome (EDS) is a group of genetic disorders involving mutations in connective tissue characterized by looseness, instability, and dislocations of the joints, skin that bruises, scars, and tears easily, unpredictable arterial and organ rupture, internal bleeding, shock, stroke, and premature death. It is estimated the prevalence of all types of Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome is 1 in 2,500 births worldwide; and

**WHEREAS**, a network of worldwide support groups have proved of great benefit to individuals with EDS. Not only do these organizations help in managing life with EDS, they are also vital in providing up-to-date information to the medical profession and public at large. There is little research being undertaken into EDS, however, there continues to be hope that genetic testing and research will be increased; and

**WHEREAS**, there is neither routine screening nor a cure for Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome. Early and accurate diagnosis can provide the opportunity to create life-saving emergency medical plans, ensure proper monitoring, and improve quality of life and support for Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome families in the Town of Friday Harbor.

**NOW, THEREFORE**, I, Carrie Lacher, Mayor of the Town of Friday Harbor, hereby proclaim May as

### **EHLERS-DANLOS SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH**

in Friday Harbor and encourage all Washingtonians to join in this observance.

*IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I  
hereunto set my hand and  
cause the Seal of the Town of  
Friday Harbor to be affixed  
this 21<sup>st</sup> day of April, 2016.*

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*Carrie Lacher, Mayor*