0/00/00/00/00/00/00/00/00/00/00/00/0 PROCLAMATION **WHEREAS,** Epilepsy Awareness Month is a nationwide effort to raise awareness about the epilepsies, seizures, and side effects, as well as to improve the lives of people affected by epilepsy through education, advocacy, research, and connection; and **WHEREAS**, epilepsy is defined by a tendency to experience seizures multiple types of seizures—including sudden, abnormal bursts of electrical activity in the brain that can disrupt behavior; it can also be difficult to differentiate between drug overdoses and epileptic seizures, an important distinction in emergency situations; and WHEREAS, epilepsy can also lead to challenges such as fatigue, memory difficulties, mood changes, anxiety, and trouble concentrating, all of which can significantly impact daily life; and **WHEREAS**, while many treatments are approved to treat seizures, 30% – 40% of people with epilepsy still live with uncontrolled seizures; epilepsy-related medical costs associated with uncontrolled epilepsy are 2 to 10 times higher than those of controlled epilepsy; and **WHEREAS**, despite these challenges, people with epilepsy can live happy, healthy, and productive lives with proper medical care and treatment; and **WHEREAS,** we must increase public knowledge about the epilepsies and seizure first aid to change the way people think about the epilepsies to decrease stigma and improve outcomes; and **NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Julie Hoy, Mayor of the City of Salem, do hereby proclaim November 2025, as EPILEPSY AWARENESS MONTH and encourage residents to seek out free educational resources that are available through the Epilepsy Foundation of Oregon as well as to take action together, so no one faces epilepsy alone. DATED this twenty-fourth day of November 2025. JulieHou Mayor