To All Those Whom These Presents Come, Greeting;

Whereas, **NUMBER of** residents of **STATE**, and more than 20% of Americans experience hearing loss and;

Whereas, Untreated hearing loss results in a greater occurrence of other physical and mental conditions in elderly patients substantially reducing quality of life for those older adults and increasing healthcare costs and;

Whereas, Untreated hearing and balance problems contribute to, and are highly correlated with, depression and social isolation and;

Whereas, Individuals with mild hearing loss are three times more likely to experience a fall, the leading cause of injury and death for Americans over 65 and;

Whereas, a 2011 study in the Journal of American Medical Association (AMA) linked the use of headphones and earbuds to a major increase in hearing loss in adolescents and young adults and;

Whereas, studies show that people wait an average of seven years before seeking treatment for hearing loss and whereas only 17% of those who could benefit from a hearing aid use one and;

Whereas, audiologists are doctoral level trained clinicians who specialize in the diagnosis and treatment of communication, hearing, and vestibular disorders.

THEREFORE, Be it resolved by **OFFICIAL**, I hereby declare the month of May to be *Better Hearing Month* in **LOCALITY.**