ERIN MENDENHALL
Mayor

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, National Epilepsy Awareness Month, supported in Utah by Epilepsy Foundation Utah and other advocates, raises awareness of epilepsy and seizures while advancing education, advocacy, research, treatment, and connection for individuals and families affected by epilepsy; and

***WHEREAS*,** epilepsy is a neurological condition characterized by recurrent, unprovoked seizures caused by sudden, abnormal electrical activity in the brain, and seizures can appear differently from person to person, affecting awareness, movement, behavior, sensation, or memory; and

***WHEREAS*,** approximately 3.4 million people in the United States, including more than 30,000 Utahns, live with epilepsy, and one in 26 people will develop epilepsy during their lifetime; people with epilepsy lead full and productive lives while sometimes navigating effects on their safety, employment, education, relationships, independence, mood, concentration, and other aspects of daily life; and

***WHEREAS*,** roughly one-third of people with epilepsy develop drug-resistant epilepsy and continue to experience seizures despite appropriate treatment, and people with epilepsy may also encounter stigma and discrimination in employment, education, housing, and other areas of community life despite protections under the Americans with Disabilities Act and related civil rights laws; and

***WHEREAS*,** Salt Lake City is committed to being an accessible, welcoming, and inclusive community, and the 2026 theme, "Where Community Sparks Hope," recognizes the importance of connection, understanding, education about seizure first aid, and collective action.

***THEREFORE*,** I, Erin Mendenhall, Mayor of Salt Lake City, do hereby proclaim November 2026 as

Epilepsy Awareness Month in Salt Lake City

Erin Mendenhall, Mayor

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