



## Calvert County, Maryland

**WHEREAS**, Ehlers-Danlos Syndromes (EDS) is a group of disorders that affect the body's connective tissues, which supports and constructs the skin, joints, blood vessels, gut, and many other organs and tissues. It affects more than one in 5000 people, both males and females of every age and race and is a chronic, life-long condition; and

**WHEREAS**, Hypermobility Spectrum Disorder (HSD) is diagnosed when the musculoskeletal complications of joint hypermobility and joint instability, such as ease of injury, joint pain, and dislocations, arise in a person who does not have the defining features of an underlying syndrome such as EDS or other heritable disorders of connective tissue; and

**WHEREAS**, in addition, several related disorders are observed in a number of people with EDS and with HSD. These add complexity to the presentation of their condition and its management; and

**WHEREAS**, a network of EDS and HSD support groups can help connect those managing life with these conditions as well as better informing the public and healthcare communities; and

**WHEREAS**, early and accurate diagnosis can provide the opportunity to create life-saving medical plans and improve quality of life, however, there is currently no treatment for Ehlers-Danlos Syndromes and no known cure, so it is imperative that further medical research and awareness be made.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED** by the Board of County Commissioners of Calvert County that the month of May 2021 be known as *Ehlers-Danlos Syndromes and Hypermobility Spectrum Disorders Awareness Month* in Calvert County. **BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED** that we commend all those who are committed to educating and increasing awareness and urge all citizens to join in increasing awareness and understanding of these disorders.

Given under our hands and seal this 4<sup>th</sup> day of May 2021.

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
CALVERT COUNTY, MARYLAND

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Rachel M. Distel, Clerk

