

WHEREAS, National Medical Laboratory Professionals Week (NMLPW) is a time of recognition for the approximately 400,000 medical laboratory professionals and 15,000 board certified pathologists who play a vital role in every aspect of health care; and

WHEREAS, NMLPW has been observed for almost 40 years and currently there are thirteen professional medical organizations sponsoring each year's celebration; and

WHEREAS, over the past 40 years the goals for NMLPW have been to recognize those professionals' dedication, their vital contributions to the field, to call the public's attention to the medical laboratory professional's role in patient care and to enhance their overall image; and

WHEREAS, as a critical component of one of this nation's largest industries, the dedicated efforts of laboratory professionals often go unnoticed by the general public, as well as the very institutions employing their services; and

WHEREAS, with the public now demanding increased health care quality and professional accountability representing practitioners of this critical science have a responsibility to ensure that the public be well informed clinical laboratory competency; and

WHEREAS, beyond meeting this public need, the celebration of NMLPW helps increase recognition of the profession as it improves the individual practitioner's sense of self-worth; and

WHEREAS, laboratory tests results are vital to the diagnosis and treatment of illness and disease and comprise an estimated 70% of the patient's medical records; and

WHEREAS, more than 10 million laboratory tests are performed in the United States each year and over 12,000 new laboratory professionals will be needed annually to meet the growing need of the world's population, while only 4,000 to 6,000 graduates will join the workforce each year.

NOW THEREFORE, I, John Koniar, Mayor of the City of Foley, of the great State of Alabama along with my fellow members of the Foley City Council, do hereby proclaim April 22 – 28, 2018 as **NATIONAL MEDICAL LABORATORY PROFESSIONALS WEEK** and urge all citizens to recognize and support the vital service provided by medical laboratory professionals for the benefit of all citizens.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set mp hand on this 16th day of April 2018

Attest: Kathryn Saylor