

WHEREAS, Stevens Johnson Syndrome was discovered in 1922 by two pediatricians, A.M. Stevens and F.C. Johnson, after they diagnosed a child with “severe ocular and oral involvement to a drug reaction”; and

WHEREAS, Stevens Johnson Syndrome and its offshoot, Toxic Epidermal Necrolysis, are severe adverse reactions to medication, including reactions to recommended drugs that help cure the three leading causes of premature death in the United States – heart disease, cancer, and diabetes; and

WHEREAS, more than two million Americans are hospitalized annually as a result of taking recommended drugs, of which 140,000 are never released and eventually perish; and

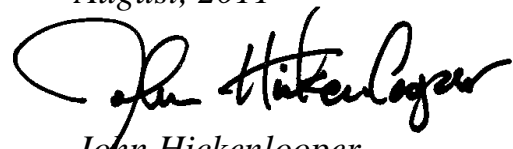
WHEREAS, the most commonly implicated drugs are anti-convulsants, antibiotics, and anti-inflammatory medications, and it is generally thought that Stevens Johnson Syndrome, commonly considered a rare disease, may be more prevalent due to the lack of accurately reported cases to the Federal Drug Administration;

Therefore, I, John Hickenlooper, Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim August 2011,

STEVENS JOHNSON SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of Colorado.

GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this fifteenth day of August, 2011


John Hickenlooper
Governor

