

Fibromyalgia Awareness Day Proclamation May 12, 2002

WHEREAS an estimated 10 million people in the United States--6-8% of the population of our country and millions of people worldwide--have been diagnosed with Fibromyalgia, a disease for which there is no known cause or cure; and

WHEREAS Fibromyalgia is a chronic illness--increasing at epidemic rates--which causes fatigue and debilitating pain in women, men, and children of all ages and races; and

WHEREAS patients with this illness often have to learn to live with widespread pain throughout their bodies; extreme fatigue; sleep disorders; stiffness and weakness; migraine headaches; numbness and tingling; impairment of memory and concentration; and

WHEREAS it often takes an average of five years to receive a diagnosis of Fibromyalgia, and medical professionals frequently are inadequately educated on FM diagnosis and treatment; and

WHEREAS it is necessary that we recognize the medical research demonstrating biochemical abnormalities in people with Fibromyalgia, and

WHEREAS Fibromyalgia in children and young adults presents unique challenges for this population who suffer not only from the symptoms of this illness, but also from the lack of understanding and social acceptance; and

WHEREAS people with Fibromyalgia face discrimination from employers, friends, family, and the judicial system while dealing with the ongoing stress of living with an unpredictable disease and an uncertain future; and

WHEREAS employers could support their employees with Fibromyalgia by making adaptations to the work environment, so that people with FM could continue to function at work and not be forced to file for disability; and

WHEREAS the National Fibromyalgia Association and other Fibromyalgia support organizations around our country have joined together to promote FM awareness and support--including improved education, diagnosis, research, and treatment; and

WHEREAS understanding this illness will help guarantee hope for a better future for people with Fibromyalgia;

NOW THEREFORE, we, the Town Council of Cinco Bayou, Florida, do hereby recognize the needs of these chronically ill people and proclaim May 12, 2002 as Fibromyalgia Awareness Day in Cinco Bayou, Florida, and urge all of our citizens to support the search for a cure and assist those individuals and families who deal with this devastating disease on a daily basis.

ATTEST:

Sara H. Carroll, Mayor

Nell Webb
Town Manager/Clerk

