



STATE of MINNESOTA

Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) is the term used to refer to chronic lung diseases, including chronic bronchitis and emphysema, which cause limitations of airflow through the lungs; and
- WHEREAS: COPD is the third leading cause of death in the United States and the second leading cause of disability; and
- WHEREAS: Twelve million people in the United States have been diagnosed with some form of COPD, and a similar number of people remain undiagnosed. In Minnesota, 160,000 people were living with some form of COPD in 2011; and
- WHEREAS: The estimated cost of COPD in the United States in 2010 was \$49.9 billion for emergency room visits, hospitalizations, and doctor visits; and
- WHEREAS: The top risk factor for COPD is smoking. Other risk factors include environmental and workplace exposure to air pollutants, second hand smoke, a history of childhood respiratory infection, and genetics; and
- WHEREAS: Increased public awareness, early detection and screening, and proper treatment are crucial to managing and combating the progression of COPD, and can lead to reduced costs and improved quality of life for the people of Minnesota.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of November, 2012 as:

COPD AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of Minnesota, and encourage people to learn more about the prevention and treatment of chronic lung diseases.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Minnesota to be affixed at the State Capitol this 9th day of November.


GOVERNOR


SECRETARY OF STATE