

## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), also known as chronic bronchitis and emphysema, is the third leading cause of death in the United States and is the only one of the top five causes of death whose prevalence and death rate is rising; and

**WHEREAS**, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease is a chronic and progressive disease that affects over 25 million individuals in the U.S., half of whom have not been properly diagnosed; and

**WHEREAS**, a diagnostic test for COPD, known as spirometry is available for office use, allowing early diagnosis of COPD yet many patients suffering with COPD are not diagnosed until they have reached an advanced stage of COPD; and

**WHEREAS**, the major risk factor for COPD is smoking. Other risk factors include environmental exposure to air pollution, industrial irritants and burned biomass fuels; and

**WHEREAS**, COPD can also result from genetic conditions, such as Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency; and

**WHEREAS**, COPD is considered to be the second leading cause of disability in the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, the annual cost to the nation in 2011 is estimated to be in excess of \$50 billion; and

**WHEREAS**, increased public awareness, early detection and treatment are crucial in the prevention or slowing the progression of lung disease and can lead to reduced costs and better quality of life for our residents;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Pima County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaim the month of November 2014 to be:

### **“COPD AWARENESS MONTH”**

and encourages all residents of Pima County to learn more about the prevention and treatment of COPD.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 21st day of October 2014.

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The Honorable Sharon Bronson, Chair  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

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Robin Brigode, Clerk  
Pima County Board of Supervisors