

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), including 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 in which the prevalence and death rate is rising; and

WHEREAS, COPD is a chronic and progressive disease that affects over 30 million individuals in the US, half of whom have not been properly diagnosed; and

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

WHEREAS, the major risk factor for COPD is smoking, with additional risk factors including 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 2015 is estimated to be over \$50 billion; and

WHEREAS, increased public awareness, early detection and treatment are crucial in the prevention or slowing of 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 proclaims the month of November 2015, 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 10th day of November 2015.

The Honorable Sharon Bronson, Chair
Pima County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Robin Brigode, Clerk
Pima County Board of Supervisors