

## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), including chronic bronchitis and emphysema, is the third leading cause of death in the United States and the only one in the top five seeing an increase in its prevalence and death rate; and

**WHEREAS**, COPD is a chronic and progressive disease that affects over 30 million individuals in the U.S., 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 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 2017 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 2017 to be:

### **“COPD AWARENESS MONTH”**

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

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 7th day of November 2017.

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The Honorable Sharon Bronson, Chair  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

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Julie Castañeda, Clerk  
Pima County Board of Supervisors