



**RICHARD ELÍAS**  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD  
COUNTY SUPERVISOR - DISTRICT 5

# PIMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS


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## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** August 14, 2019

**TO:** Julie Castañeda, Clerk of the Board

**FROM:** Richard Elías, Chairman and District Five Supervisor 

**REGARDING:** Item for the September 3, 2019, agenda

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Please add the following to the September 3, 2019, agenda:

### Proclamation

Proclaiming September 2019 to be "Falls Prevention Awareness Month." (District 5)

Thank you

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## PROCLAMATION

**WHEREAS**, falls continue to be the leading cause of unintentional injury-related hospitalizations, emergency-department visits, and deaths among Arizonans aged 65 and older, with more than 18,000 falls and 974 deaths reported to the Arizona State Trauma Registry in 2017; and

**WHEREAS**, two out of five patients reported by Arizona Trauma Centers in 2017 suffered from an unintentional fall and more than 74 percent were transported by emergency medical services; and

**WHEREAS**, more than half of those injured by unintentional falls in 2017 were treated at a Level One trauma center and these treatments resulted in \$663 million in charges; and

**WHEREAS**, falling is not an inevitable result of aging; and

**WHEREAS**, all of us have the power to reduce the risk of falling and promote health, safety, and independence through participation in evidence-based physical exercise, annual eye and hearing checkups, medication management, and home safety checks.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Pima County Board of Supervisors hereby proclaims the month of September 2019 to be:

### **“FALLS PREVENTION AWARENESS MONTH”**

and urges all older adults, family members, caregivers, health care providers, fire and medical departments, first responders, and community partners to join the Southern Chapter of the Arizona Falls Prevention Coalition. It is a respected local partnership of groups mobilized to promote strategies to prevent falls and fall-related injuries among older adults; and who routinely assess older adults, including our veterans and those with disabilities, for fall risks.

**PASSED AND ADOPTED** this 3rd day of September 2019.

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The Honorable Richard Elías, Chairman  
Pima County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

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Julie Castañeda, Clerk  
Pima County Board of Supervisors