



## STATE of MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

WHEREAS: Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) is a term that refers to a group of diseases that cause airflow obstruction and breathing-related problems, including: emphysema; chronic bronchitis; and in some cases, asthma and severe bronchiectasis; and

WHEREAS: In Minnesota, 4.1 percent of adults have been diagnosed with COPD, and COPD is considered to be the second leading cause of disability in the United States; and

WHEREAS: In 2008, COPD became the third leading cause of death in the United States, 12 years earlier than predicted, and the only leading cause of death that is not declining; and

WHEREAS: In 2010, the estimated cost of COPD in the United States was \$49.9 billion in doctor visits, emergency room visits, and hospitalizations; and

WHEREAS: The top risk factor for COPD is smoking. Other risk factors include: environmental and workplace exposure to air pollutants; secondhand 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 Minnesotans diagnosed with COPD.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of November 2013, as:

## COPD AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of Minnesota.



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 1<sup>ST</sup> day of November.

  
GOVERNOR

  
SECRETARY OF STATE