



## STATE *of* MINNESOTA

# Proclamation

- WHEREAS: Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD) is a term referring to a group of diseases that cause airflow obstruction and breathing-related problems, including emphysema, chronic bronchitis, asthma, and severe bronchiectasis; and
- WHEREAS: COPD is a chronic and progressive disease that affects an estimated 24 million people nationwide, half of whom have not been properly diagnosed, and 70 percent of whom are under the age of 65; and
- WHEREAS: COPD is the third leading cause of death and the second leading cause of disability in the United States; 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, including \$630 million spent on healthcare in Minnesota; and
- WHEREAS: The primary risk factor for COPD is smoking, while other risk factors include environmental and workplace exposure to air pollutants, secondhand smoke, a history of childhood respiratory infections, and genetic factors; and
- WHEREAS: Concerted public outreach efforts such as a DRIVE4COPD, the nation's largest public awareness and screening campaign for COPD, and the NHLBI's "COPD: Learn More Breathe Better Campaign," can dramatically improve public awareness of COPD; and
- WHEREAS: Increased public awareness, early detection, and proper treatment are crucial to managing and slowing the progression of COPD, reducing costs, and improving quality of life for those diagnosed with COPD.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, MARK DAYTON, Governor of Minnesota, do hereby proclaim the month of November 2017, as:

## COPD AWARENESS MONTH

in the State of Minnesota.



*Steve Pimm*

SECRETARY OF STATE

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 27<sup>th</sup> day of October.

*Mark Dayton*  
GOVERNOR