

State of South Carolina

Governor's Proclamation

WHEREAS, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is a term used to refer to a group of diseases, including emphysema, chronic bronchitis and, in some cases, asthma, that cause airflow obstruction and breathing related problems; and

WHEREAS, affecting approximately 15 percent of the adult population, almost half of which remain undiagnosed, COPD is the third leading cause of death in South Carolina; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, there were over 10,000 COPD-related hospitalizations and more than 41,000 COPD-related emergency room visits at a cost of \$527 million; and

WHEREAS, increased awareness of symptoms and risk factors, early diagnosis through the use of reliable testing protocols, and effective disease management and treatment are crucial to reducing the incidence and slowing the spread of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Nikki R. Haley, Governor of the great State of South Carolina, do hereby proclaim November 2016 as

CHRONIC OBSTRUCTIVE PULMONARY DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

throughout the state and encourage all South Carolinians to learn more about this disease and the importance of respiratory health to the well-being of our citizens.



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Nikki R. Haley".

NIKKI R. HALEY
GOVERNOR
STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA