

A Proclamation

Whereas, Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death among men and women in the United States and in Massachusetts in 2022, accounting for more deaths than colon cancer, breast cancer, and prostate cancer combined; and

Whereas, According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, there are an estimated 5,600 new lung cancer cases and 2,760 deaths because of lung cancer in 2022 in Massachusetts, with the 5-year survival rate for localized lung cancer being 60% but only a small percentage of lung cancers being diagnosed at this stage; and

Whereas, Screening for lung cancer for high-risk individuals using low-dose computed tomography can lead to the earlier detection of lung cancer and save lives, reducing the mortality by 20% when compared to screening by chest x-ray in the National Lung Screening Trial and reducing the risk of death at 10 years by 24% in men and 33% in women as demonstrated by another large randomized trial; and

Whereas, Additional funding for lung cancer research is critical, and additional research is needed in early diagnosis, screening, and treatment for lung cancer as well as in lung cancer affecting women and lung cancer health disparities; and

Whereas, Women diagnosed with lung cancer are more likely than men to be younger and never-smokers, lung cancer incidence and mortality rates in women are decreasing less relative to men, more women die from lung cancer than breast cancer every year and by 2035, it is expected that more women will die from lung cancer than men; and

Whereas, African Americans have the highest lung cancer incidence and mortality of all races, and disparities in lung cancer screening, diagnosis, treatment, and mortality are evident among African Americans and other racial minorities; and

Whereas, Organizations working in Massachusetts are committed to educating the public about lung cancer and working to increase lung cancer screening rates, promote research, and eliminate disparities,

Now, Therefore, I, Charles D. Baker, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim November, 2022, to be,

LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

And urge all the citizens of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.

Given at the Executive Chamber in Boston, this first day of November, in the year two thousand and twenty-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the two hundred and forty-sixth.

By HIS EXCELLENCY

GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

KARYN E. POLITO

WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH