



From the Governing Body of  
Opelika, Alabama



# Proclamation



**Whereas**, lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death among men and women in the United States and Opelika, Alabama, accounting for more deaths than colon cancer, breast cancer, and prostate cancer combined. According to the Centers for Disease Control, there were 361 new cases and 312 deaths because of lung cancer from 2016-2020 in Lee County; 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; and

**Whereas**, funding for lung cancer research trails far behind funding for research of many other cancers, 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

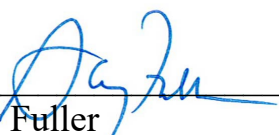
**Whereas**, lung cancer incidence is decreasing twice as fast in men as it is in women, each year more women die from lung cancer than breast cancer and by 2035, more women will die from lung cancer than men; and

**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 well characterized among African Americans and other racial minorities. and

**Whereas**, lung cancer in individuals who never smoked is the 7<sup>th</sup> leading cause of cancer-related death and accounts for 17,000-26,000 deaths in the US every year; and

**Whereas**, organizations working in Opelika, Alabama, such as the American Lung Cancer Screening Initiative and Women's Lung Cancer Forum, are committed to educating about lung cancer and lung cancer screening and working to increase lung cancer screening rates in Opelika, Alabama.

**Therefore**, I, Mayor Gary Fuller, hereby proclaim November 2023 as Lung Cancer Awareness Month in Opelika, Alabama, and recognize the need for research in lung cancer affecting women and lung cancer health disparities and encourage all citizens to learn about lung cancer and early detection through lung cancer screening.

  
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Gary Fuller  
Mayor, City of Opelika