

# The Commonwealth of Massachusetts



## A Proclamation

Whereas, Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death among men and women in the United States and in Massachusetts, 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 were an estimated 5,600 new lung cancer cases and 2,760 deaths due to lung cancer in 2022 in Massachusetts; and

Whereas, 5-year survival rate for localized lung cancer is 60 percent, but only a small percentage of lung cancers are 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 and reducing the risk of death at 10 years by 24 percent in men and 33 percent in women; 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 are more severely impacted by lung cancer than men. Women diagnosed with lung cancer are more likely to be younger and never-smokers, lung cancer incidence and mortality rates in women are decreasing less, 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 communities of color; 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,

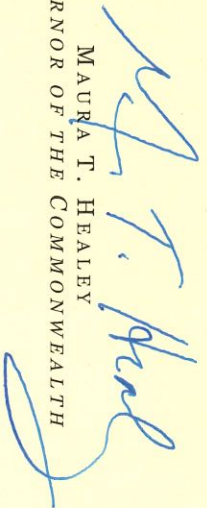
Now, Therefore, I, Maura T. Healey, Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby proclaim November 2023, to be,

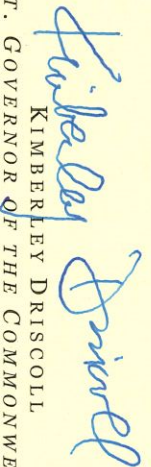
## LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

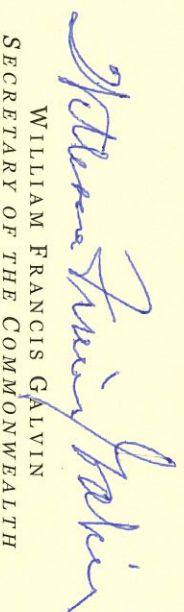
*And urge all residents of the Commonwealth to take cognizance of this event and participate fittingly in its observance.*

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

BY HER EXCELLENCY

  
MAURA T. HEALEY  
GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

  
KIMBERLEY DRISCOLL  
LT. GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH

  
WILLIAM FRANCIS GALVIN  
SECRETARY OF THE COMMONWEALTH

God Save the Commonwealth of Massachusetts