

Town of West Springfield

Official Proclamation

WHEREAS, lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer death among men and women in the United States and 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 numerous new lung cancer cases and deaths because of lung cancer annually in Rhode Island currently at a rate of 69.3 per 100,000, with the 5-year survival rate for localized lung cancer being ~59% but only ~17% 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, funding for lung cancer research trials is 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

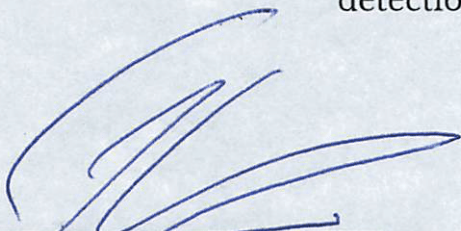
WHEREAS, women diagnosed with lung cancer are more likely to be younger and never-smokers; lung cancer incidence and mortality rates in women are rising relative to men. More women die from lung cancer than breast cancer every year and by 2035, it is expected that more women will die from lung cancer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

WHEREAS, organizations working in the community, such as the American Lung Cancer Screening Initiative and Women's Lung Cancer Forum, are committed to educating people about lung cancer and lung cancer screening while working to increase lung cancer screening rates.

NOW THEREFORE, I, William C. Reichelt, on behalf of all our citizens,
do hereby proclaim November as:

LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH

in the city of West Springfield, Massachusetts and encourage all citizens to observe this month by educating themselves about the need to research on lung cancer affecting women and lung cancer health disparities while encouraging one another to learn about early detection through screening.



William C. Reichelt

Mayor of The City of West Springfield

