

Proclamation



Jane Castor, Mayor

WHEREAS, lung cancer, also known as lung carcinoma, is a malignant tumor characterized by uncontrolled cell growth in the lung tissues, and it is the number one cause of cancer death of men and women in the United States, with a person being diagnosed nearly every two and a half minutes with one woman dying of lung cancer about every eight minutes; and

WHEREAS, lung cancer is considered as an invisible cancer because of the late onset of symptoms when the cancer is in advanced stages and lack of knowledge by the public, and the disease often requires laboratory testing or imaging to diagnose, and although it is the least federally funded of the top cancers, new screenings, treatments, and therapies have improved the five-year survival rate; and

WHEREAS, it is important to increase funding for scientific lung cancer research to ensure advancements in early diagnosis, and to improved technology and treatments so the survival rates continue to improve, and awareness campaigns help to bring attention to this disease, the importance of lung cancer screenings, and the need for funding and promoting optimum lung health; and

WHEREAS, since 1904, the **American Lung Association** has led the fight for healthy lungs and healthy air, and its mission is to save lives by improving lung health and preventing lung disease, and the organization is committed to its goals through education, advocacy and research, and its main objectives include the defeat of lung cancer, creating a tobacco-free future, championing for clean air for all, and improving the quality of life for those living with lung disease, because *when you can't breathe, nothing else matters*, and

WHEREAS, the American Lung Association's LUNG FORCE initiative has named the second week in May as Lung Cancer Action Week, also known as **Turquoise Takeover Week**, to unite the nation against lung cancer, and it encourages individuals to wear the color turquoise in support of innovative lung cancer research focused on prevention, early screenings, improved treatment options, and higher survival rates.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Jane Castor, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor of the city of Tampa, Florida, do hereby proclaim the week of May 6-12, 2024, as

"TURQUOISE TAKEOVER WEEK"

in the city of Tampa, Florida, and urge all citizens to become educated about lung health and to join me in thanking the dedicated organizations, members of the medical community, and all those who are committed to the health and well-being of American citizens, and to wear the color **turquoise** during the second week in May.

Dated in Tampa, Florida, this 26th day of April 2024.



Jane Castor
Mayor