

## *A Proclamation by the Governor*

**WHEREAS**, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is a term used to classify a group of diseases that cause airflow obstruction and breathing related problems, including emphysema, chronic bronchitis, and in some cases, asthma and severe bronchiectasis; and

**WHEREAS**, COPD is currently the third leading cause of death in the United States, resulting in approximately 136,000 deaths annually; and

**WHEREAS**, more than 11 million people have been diagnosed with COPD nationwide, and 24 million people have evidence of impaired lung function, indicating an under diagnosis of COPD; and

**WHEREAS**, in Nevada 6.7 percent of adults overall and 8.4 percent of women have been diagnosed with COPD; and

**WHEREAS**, smoking is the primary risk factor for COPD, and other risk factors include environmental and occupational pollutants, second-hand smoke, and genetic factors; and

**WHEREAS**, a genetic condition called Alpha-1 Antitrypsin Deficiency tends to cause individuals to develop COPD; and

**WHEREAS**, COPD kills more women than breast cancer, and women who smoke are 13 times more likely to die from COPD than non-smokers; and

**WHEREAS**, COPD costs the nation an estimated \$49.9 billion in indirect and direct medical costs annually; and

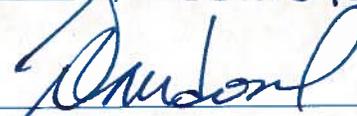
**WHEREAS**, there is no cure for COPD, but increased awareness, early detection and proper health management can slow the progression of the disease and lead to reduced costs, improved quality of life, and self-sufficiency for our residents;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, BRIAN SANDOVAL, GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, do hereby proclaim November 2014 as**

### **COPD AWARENESS MONTH**



*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Nevada to be affixed at the State Capitol in Carson City, this 21<sup>st</sup> day of October, 2014.

  
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Governor

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of State

By \_\_\_\_\_  
Deputy