



Executive Department
State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor
Proclamation

State Capitol
Boise

WHEREAS, Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), also known as chronic bronchitis and emphysema, is the third leading cause of death in the United States and is the only one of the top five causes of death whose prevalence and death rate is rising; and

WHEREAS, COPD is a chronic and progressive disease that affects over 24 million individuals in the United States, half of whom have not been properly diagnosed; and

WHEREAS, a diagnostic test for COPD, known as spirometry, is available for office use, allowing early diagnosis of COPD, yet many patients suffering with COPD are not diagnosed until they have reached an advanced stage of the disease; and

WHEREAS, the major risk factor for COPD is smoking; other risk factors include environmental exposure to air pollution, industrial irritants and burned biomass fuels; and

WHEREAS, COPD also can result from genetic conditions, such as Alpha -1 Antitrypsin Deficiency; and

WHEREAS, COPD is considered to be the second leading cause of disability in the nation; and

WHEREAS, the annual cost to the nation in 2010 was estimated to be \$49.9 billion; and

WHEREAS, increased public awareness, early detection and treatment are crucial in the prevention or slowing the progression of lung disease and can lead to reduced costs and better quality of life for our residents;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim November 2012 to be

COPD AWARENESS MONTH

in Idaho, and encourage all residents to learn more about the prevention and treatment of COPD.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 1st day of November in the year of our Lord two thousand and twelve and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred thirty-seventh and of the Statehood of Idaho the one hundred twenty third.

C.L. "BUTCH" OTTER
GOVERNOR

BEN YSURSA
SECRETARY OF STATE