

Proclamation

Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD) is the fourth leading cause of death in the United States, according to the World Health Organization (WHO). This serious lung disease is most often characterized by shortness of breath and a persistent cough and is mainly associated with emphysema, chronic bronchitis and chronic asthma. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, more than 12 million people are currently diagnosed with COPD and an equal number or more are likely to have this disease without knowing it.

The Hawai'i COPD coalition states that out of the top 10 most deadly diseases, only COPD has continued to increase since 1965, whereas heart disease, cancer and stroke have decreased approximately 65 percent. As a result, more than 120,000 Americans, one every four minutes, die each year of COPD. Though smoking and secondhand smoke remain major causes of COPD, it is estimated that 1 in 6 COPD patients have never smoked.

In Hawai'i, there are an estimated 38,577 patients with chronic bronchitis and 17,300 with emphysema. The total COPD-related emergency room visits on our islands increased 54.8 percent from 2001 to 2005, rising from 1,263 to 1,956 visits. To strengthen prevention efforts and improve diagnosis and treatment, the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute initiated the "*Learn More, Breathe Better*" National COPD Awareness Campaign in November 2001.

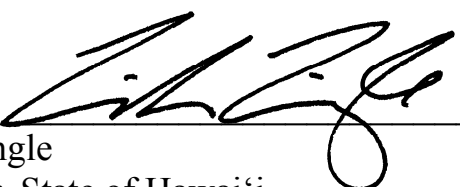
The Hawai'i COPD Coalition and Longs Drugs have collaborated in launching Project Success to increase COPD awareness throughout the state. Funded by a grant from the Department of Health and administered by Hawai'i Community Foundation with proceeds from Hawai'i Tobacco Prevention and Control Trust Fund, the project consists of a series of free clinics administered by licensed healthcare professionals throughout the year. On October 17 and November 19, Longs Drugs in the Windward City Shopping Center will host clinics, as will the Longs in Kāne'ohe Bay Shopping Center on November 7 and December 9. These free clinics offer lung testing, tobacco cessation counseling, referrals to community resources and education in lung health.

THEREFORE, I, LINDA LINGLE, Governor, and I, JAMES R. "DUKE" AIONA, JR., Lieutenant Governor, of the State of Hawai'i, do hereby proclaim **November 2008** as

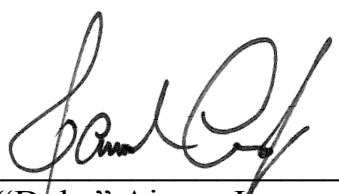
COPD AWARENESS MONTH

in Hawai'i, and urge our citizens to learn whether they are at risk for COPD, get tested and get appropriate treatment.

DONE at the State Capitol, in the Executive Chambers, Honolulu, State of Hawai'i, this tenth day of November 2008.



Linda Lingle
Governor, State of Hawai'i



James R. "Duke" Aiona, Jr.
Lieutenant Governor, State of Hawai'i