

Winchendon, Massachusetts Proclamation
RESOLUTION

Declaring the month of November "Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month" in the Town of Winchendon, Massachusetts.

WHEREAS in 2014, an estimated 46,420 people will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in the United States and 39,590 will die from the disease;

WHEREAS pancreatic cancer is one of the deadliest cancers, is currently the fourth leading cause of cancer death in the United States and is projected to become the second by 2020;

WHEREAS pancreatic cancer is the only major cancer with a five-year relative survival rate in the single digits at just six percent;

WHEREAS when symptoms of pancreatic cancer present themselves, it is generally late stage, and 73 percent of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first year of their diagnosis while 94 percent of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first five years;

WHEREAS approximately 920 deaths will occur in Massachusetts in 2014;

WHEREAS the *Recalcitrant Cancer Research Act* was signed into law in 2013, which calls on the National Cancer Institute to develop a scientific framework, or strategic plans, for pancreatic cancer and other deadly cancers, which will help provide the strategic direction and guidance needed to make true progress against these diseases; and

WHEREAS, it will be very difficult to leverage the opportunities that come out of the scientific framework developed as a result of the Recalcitrant Cancer Research Act unless sustained and adequate funding is provided to the National Institutes of Health and National Cancer Institute; and

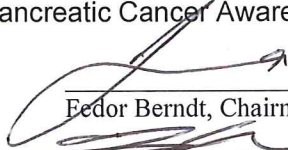
WHEREAS federal funding for medical research is critical to job protection and creation in Massachusetts; and

WHEREAS the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network is the national organization serving the pancreatic cancer community in Winchendon and nationwide through a comprehensive approach that includes public policy, research funding, patient services, and public awareness and education related to developing effective treatments and a cure for pancreatic cancer;

WHEREAS the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network and its affiliates in Winchendon support those patients currently battling pancreatic cancer, as well as to those who have lost their lives to the disease, and are committed to nothing less than a cure;

WHEREAS the good health and well-being of the residents of Winchendon are enhanced as a direct result of increased awareness about pancreatic cancer and research into early detection, causes, and effective treatments; therefore be it


RESOLVED that the Board of Selectmen designate the month of November 2014 as "Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month" in the Town of Winchendon, Massachusetts.




Fedor Berndt, Chairman



Robert O'Keefe, Member



Beth Hunt, Vice Chair



Keith Barrows, Member