

PROCLAMATION

- WHEREAS in 2011, an estimated 43,030 people will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in the United States and 37,660 will die from the disease;
- WHEREAS pancreatic cancer is one of the deadliest cancers and is the fourth leading cause of cancer death in the United States;
- WHEREAS when symptoms of pancreatic cancer present themselves, it is usually too late for an optimistic prognosis, and 74 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 of all the racial/ethnic groups in the United States, African Americans have the highest incidence rate of pancreatic cancer, between 34 percent and 70 percent higher than the other groups; WHEREAS approximately 760 deaths will occur in Washington in 2011;
- WHEREAS there is no cure for pancreatic cancer and there have been no significant improvements in survival rates in the last 40 years;
- WHEREAS the Federal Government invests significantly less money in pancreatic cancer research than it does in any of the other leading cancer killers; and pancreatic cancer research constitutes only approximately 2 percent of the National Cancer Institute's federal research funding, a figure far too low given the severity of the disease, its mortality rate, and how little is known about how to arrest it;
- WHEREAS, the Pancreatic Cancer Research & Education Act (S. 362/H.R. 733) requires that the National Cancer Institute develop a strategic plan for combating pancreatic cancer;
- WHEREAS the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network is the first and only national patient advocacy organization that serves the pancreatic cancer community in Seattle and nationwide by focusing its efforts on 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 Seattle 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 Seattle are enhanced as a direct result of increased awareness about pancreatic cancer and research into early detection, causes, and effective treatments;
- WHEREAS the Puget Sound affiliate of the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network will hold its 3rd Annual PurpleStride fundraiser walk on November 6th, 2011 at Magnussen Park in Seattle.

therefore be it RESOLVED that the City of Seattle designate the month of November 2011 as

Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month



Michael McGinn
Mayor

