

Douglas A. Ducey
Governor

Office of the Governor

* HEPATITIS AWARENESS MONTH *

WHEREAS, an estimated 4.4 million Americans are living with chronic viral hepatitis, which includes an estimated 80,000 Arizonans living with hepatitis C, and with 75 percent of these unaware of their infection; and

WHEREAS, viral hepatitis is one of the most common infectious diseases in Arizona with over 1,000 cases of hepatitis B and over 10,000 cases of hepatitis C reported each year; and

WHEREAS, viral hepatitis is the leading cause of liver cancer and liver transplants and more people die from hepatitis C than HIV; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the United States Preventive Services Task Force recommend all people born in Asia and the Pacific Islands get tested for hepatitis B and all people born between 1945 and 1965 get tested for hepatitis C; and

WHEREAS, the national action plan for the prevention, care and treatment of viral hepatitis includes preventing hepatitis A and B through vaccination and reducing the spread of viral hepatitis; and

WHEREAS, hepatitis B and C are common bloodborne infections in the United States and can be prevented by not sharing needles, syringes and other personal items such as razors or toothbrushes; and

WHEREAS, the burden of viral hepatitis may be reduced through public and provider education, including promotion of early diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, advances in hepatitis C treatments offer simpler dosing, shorter treatment durations, fewer side effects, and most importantly, a cure for most patients; and

WHEREAS, the public health agencies, health centers, behavioral health clinics, and community organizations are united to educate the public and healthcare providers about viral hepatitis in Arizona.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim May 2015 as

* HEPATITIS AWARENESS MONTH *

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Arizona



Douglas A. Ducey
GOVERNOR

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this thirty-first day of March in the year Two Thousand and Fifteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Thirty-ninth.

ATTEST:

Michelle Reagan

Secretary of State