National Meso Awareness Day – September 26 Resolution Text:

Whereas, mesothelioma is an aggressive, asbestos-related cancer that affects the linings of the lungs, abdomen, heart or testicles;

Whereas, the heavy use of asbestos in manufacturing, industry and construction has been recognized as "the worst occupational health disaster in U.S. history;

Whereas, asbestos was used in the construction of virtually all office buildings, public schools, and homes built before 1975;

Whereas, a high percentage of all mesothelioma victims were exposed to asbestos on naval ships and in shipyards;

Whereas, this is now believed to include many of the firefighters, police officers, and rescue workers from Ground Zero on 9/11/01;

Whereas, exposure to asbestos for as little as one month can result in mesothelioma 30 years later;

Whereas, because of occupational, Navy-service related, household, or even incidental exposures and the very long latency of the disease, tens of millions of Americans are now at risk for developing mesothelioma

Whereas, for decades the need for research to develop effective treatments for mesothelioma was overlooked;

Whereas, the result of this neglect is that treatments available today generally have only limited effect and most patients die within only 12 to 15 months from diagnosis;

Whereas, in 1999, the Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation was formed to eradicate the life-ending and vicious effects of mesothelioma, and early progress in developing effective treatments for the disease is now being made; and

Whereas, the establishment of Mesothelioma Awareness Day will raise public awareness of the disease and of the need to develop effective treatments for it.

Now therefore, be it resolved that September 26, be hereby declared Mesothelioma Awareness Day in the Garden Grove, Orange Co., CA.

Recommended for Approval

Matthew Fertal