

RESOLUTION NUMBER R- 299221

ADOPTED ON MAY 17 2004

WHEREAS, asthma has reached epidemic proportions in the United States, affecting about 20 million people; and

WHEREAS, asthma is the most common chronic childhood disease, affecting 4.8 million children nationwide; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the San Diego Regional Asthma Coalition is to provide leadership in identifying, developing, mobilizing, and coordinating resources to prevent asthma and positively impact the lives of people affected by asthma in San Diego County; and

WHEREAS, asthma is a chronic inflammatory disease in which the airways of the lungs constrict, causing wheezing, breathlessness, chest tightness, and coughing; and

WHEREAS, asthma is the leading cause of childhood hospitalizations, long-term illness, and school absenteeism, accounting for more than 14 million missed school days each year; and

WHEREAS, each year 2 million people are rushed to the emergency room and 5,000 people die from asthma and 120 people in San Diego County died from asthma from 1999 and 2001; and

WHEREAS, the burden of asthma weighs heavily on low-income, minority populations, and children living in urban area cities due to the lack of health insurance, inadequate primary care, language barriers, and inability to access services contributes to avoidable hospitalization and asthma deaths; and

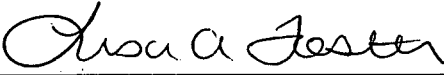
WHEREAS, exposure to allergens and irritants such as dust mites, mold, cockroaches, pet dander, and secondhand smoke can bring on an asthma episode; and

WHEREAS, there are simple steps people can take to reduce their exposure to environmental asthma triggers; and

WHEREAS, the City of San Diego is encouraging Americans to identify and reduce their exposures to environmental triggers in homes and schools, and incorporate environmental controls into their asthma management plans; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED, by the City Council, that this Council, for and on behalf of the citizens of San Diego, does hereby proclaim May 2004 to be “**ASTHMA AWARENESS MONTH**” in the City of San Diego.

APPROVED: CASEY GWINN, City Attorney

By 
Lisa A. Foster
Deputy City Attorney

LAF:jab
03/24/2004
Or.Dept: Council-Madaffer
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