



PROCLAMATION
Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month

WHEREAS, in 2011, an estimated 44,030 people will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in the United States and 37,660 will die from the disease; and

WHEREAS, pancreatic cancer is one of the deadliest cancers and is the fourth leading cause of cancer death in the United States; and

WHEREAS, when symptoms of pancreatic cancer present themselves, it is usually too late for an optimistic prognosis, and 75 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; and

WHEREAS, incidence of pancreatic cancer is approximately 50 percent higher in African Americans than in other ethnic groups; and

WHEREAS, approximately 2,600 pancreatic cancer deaths will occur in Florida in 2011; and

WHEREAS, there is no cure for pancreatic cancer and there have been no significant improvements in survival rates in the last 40 years; and

WHEREAS, Pancreatic cancer research constitutes only 2 percent of the National Cancer Institute's federal research funding, a small figure compared to other leading cancer killers given the severity of the disease, its mortality rate, and how little is known about how to arrest it; and

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; and

WHEREAS, the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network is the first and only national patient advocacy organization that serves the pancreatic cancer community in Sumter County 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; and

WHEREAS, the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network and its affiliates in Sumter County 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; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED THAT THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS, SUMTER COUNTY, FLORIDA, HEREBY PROCLAIM THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 2011 AS

“PANCREATIC CANCER AWARENESS MONTH”

DONE AND PROCLAIMED this 25th day of October 2011, Sumter County Florida

Attest:

**BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SUMTER COUNTY**

Connie Webb
Deputy Clerk

Don Burgess
Chairman