

GOVERNOR DOUGLAS A. DUCEY

STATE OF ARIZONA
★
PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Healthcare Decisions Day exists to inspire, educate, and empower the public and providers about the importance of advance care planning and raise public awareness of the need to plan ahead for healthcare decisions, related to end-of-life care and medical decision-making whenever patients are unable to speak for themselves; and

WHEREAS, only one in five Arizonans are estimated to have completed an advance care directive, and less than half of severely or terminally ill patients are estimated to have completed an advance care directive; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force Against Senior Abuse encourages hospitals, nursing homes, assisted living facilities, continuing care retirement communities, and hospice care facilities statewide to provide clear and consistent information to the public about advance care directives; and

WHEREAS, the Task Force Against Senior Abuse will encourage medical professionals and lawyers to volunteer their time and efforts to improve public knowledge and increase the number of Arizona citizens with advance care directives; and

WHEREAS, the Arizona Secretary of State maintains and operates the Advance Directive Registry, establishing in law a process for healthcare providers and first responders to access the registry at no cost; and

WHEREAS, one of the themes of Healthcare Decisions Month is: "It always seems too early, until it's too late;" and

WHEREAS, as a result of April, 2019 being recognized as Healthcare Decisions Month in Arizona, more citizens will have conversations about their healthcare decisions with their family; more citizens will complete advance directives to make their final wishes known, and fewer families will have to struggle with making difficult healthcare decisions in the absence of guidance from their loved ones.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim April 2019 as

HEALTHCARE DECISIONS 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 twelfth day of April in the year Two Thousand and Nineteen and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-Third.

ATTEST:

[Signature]
SECRETARY OF STATE