## STATE OF ARIZONA PROCLÂMATION

WHEREAS, nearly 7 million people in the United States are living with chronic wounds; and

WHEREAS, hyperbaric oxygen therapy (HBOT) is a treatment option for wounds, infections or injuries that have not responded to standard treatment; and

WHEREAS, HBOT is most commonly used in the treatment of diabetic ulcers of lower extremities, radiation injury to bone or tissue, compromised grafts and flaps, and chronic refractory osteomyelitis; and

WHEREAS, cancer is the second leading cause of death in the United States. Of the 1.8 million people diagnosed with cancer in the United States, approximately 50 percent of them will receive radiation therapy during the course of their illness; and

WHEREAS, radiation can cause a lack of oxygen in the body's tissue which is needed for the tissue to thrive. If there is a break in the integrity of the tissue, infection or non-healing wounds can occur; and

WHEREAS, approximately 5 to 15 percent of patients who undergo radiation therapy may have late radiation tissue injury and HBOT could be used as a treatment option for patients who suffer these side effects. HBOT is believed to help patients by stimulating growth of new blood vessels following radiationinduced damage; and

WHEREAS, it is important to spread awareness and promote education of individuals suffering from chronic wounds and how hyperbaric oxygen therapy could be beneficial to their care.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Douglas A. Ducey, Governor of the State of Arizona, do hereby proclaim May 2021 as

## HYPERBARIC AWARENESS MONTH

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

DONE at the Capitol in Phoenix on this Twenty-Ninth day of April in the year Two Thousand and Twenty-One, and of the Independence of the United States of America the Two Hundred and Forty-Fifth.

SECRETARY OF STATE