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Title: PROCLAMATION DECLARING OCTOBER 2016 AS NATIONAL BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH IN GUILFORD COUNTY

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TITLE

PROCLAMATION DECLARING OCTOBER 2016 AS NATIONAL BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH IN GUILFORD COUNTY

SPONSOR

Commissioner Perdue

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, breast cancer is the second most commonly diagnosed form of cancer for women in the United States; and

WHEREAS, breast cancer remains the second leading cause of cancer death among American women. In 2016, the National Cancer Institute estimates that 246,660 new cases will be detected in women in the United States and approximately 40,450 women will die from the disease; and

WHEREAS, the NC State Center for Health Statistics estimates that, in 2016 in Guilford County, 504 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer and 71 women will die from the disease; and

WHEREAS, every woman is at risk for breast cancer even if she has no family history of the disease, and women over the age of 50 are at greatest risk for developing breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, although men are not as susceptible to developing this form of cancer as women, 2,600 men are expected to be diagnosed with breast cancer this year. While survival rates for men and women with breast cancer are similar, men report symptoms less frequently, and are

therefore at a greater risk of developing an advanced case of breast cancer before detection; and

WHEREAS, a mammogram is recognized as the single most effective method of detecting breast cancer in its earliest stages; before physical symptoms can be seen or felt, and when treatment is most successful; and

WHEREAS, all citizens can reduce their risk of cancer and other chronic illnesses by making deliberate lifestyle changes to improve and protect their health; and

WHEREAS, we acknowledge and support the extraordinary commitment and effort invested in this cause by researchers, scientists, medical professionals, numerous nonprofit organizations and survivors, who are dedicated to discovering a cure for breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, we honor the faith and courage of all breast cancer survivors, their family members, caregivers and friends, within Guilford County and throughout the nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Guilford County Board of County Commissioners does hereby proclaim the month of October 2016 as **NATIONAL BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH** and urges citizens to learn the facts about breast cancer and discuss screening with their health care providers. The Board also encourages preventative action and early detection through regular clinical breast examinations, regular mammograms, and monthly breast self-examinations.