



PROCLAMATION

**CNMI CANCER
SURVIVORS WEEK
MAY 28 - JUNE 4, 2017**

**CNMI CANCER
SURVIVORS DAY
JUNE 4, 2017**

WHEREAS, National Cancer Survivors Day is celebrated in hundreds of communities throughout the world on the first Sunday of June, for the past twenty-six years; and

WHEREAS, a “cancer survivor” is defined as anyone living with a history of cancer—from the moment of diagnosis through the remainder of life; and

WHEREAS, cancer survivors face challenges and difficulties after being diagnosed, including financial hardships, unhealthy psychological and emotional feelings, employment problems, and personal relationship struggles, among others; and

WHEREAS, there are about 300 active, productive cancer survivors in the CNMI and nearly 12 million cancer survivors in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth Cancer Association in collaboration with the Commonwealth Healthcare Corporation-Comprehensive Cancer Control Program and other social and human service providers work cooperatively towards the eradication of cancer in our community; and

WHEREAS, the Marianas March Against Cancer, a signature annual fundraiser of the Commonwealth Cancer Association, raised thousands of dollars in support of providing direct assistance to cancer survivors in the CNMI; and

WHEREAS, over 1.5 million new cancer cases will be diagnosed in the United States and its territories this year; and

WHEREAS, increased access to quality cancer care, screening, prevention, and patient navigation, especially among the medically underserved, must be a top priority in our community.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, RALPH DLG. TORRES, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and **I, VICTOR B. HOCO**, Lt. Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands by virtue of the authority vested in us by the Constitution and Laws of the Commonwealth, do hereby proclaim the week of **May 28 – June 4, 2017** as **CNMI CANCER SURVIVORS WEEK** and **Sunday, June 4, 2017** as **CNMI CANCER SURVIVORS DAY**. We urge all citizens to join in this joyous celebration of life and on behalf of the people of this great Commonwealth, salute all cancer survivors and those who support them.