BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE PHILIPPINES

PROCLAMATION NO. 442

DECLARING THE SECOND WEEK OF AUGUST OF EVERY YEAR AS "ASTHMA WEEK"

WHEREAS, ASTHMA is a serious medical disorder that affects about 5 million FILIPINOS of all ages with a continuous increase in prevalence;

WHEREAS, this life-long condition is characterized by episodes of exacerbations which, if not immediately relieved, may be fatal;

WHEREAS, ASTHMA carries a heavy economical burden, both in terms of treatment costs and work disruption on the part of the asthmatic and his caretakers;

WHEREAS, effective programs and potent medications proven to produce good asthma control are now available, which have been shown to help make asthma subjects lead normal and productive lives;

WHEREAS, optimal utilization of these programs and drugs requires a good coordination between the patient and his doctor, as well as a basic understanding of the disease by the patient and his family;

WHEREAS, there is a need to maximally enhance the consciousness of the populace on ASTHMA and to coordinate the direct group activities conducted for ASTHMA;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, FIDEL V. RAMOS, President of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby declare the second week of August of every year as "ASTHMA WEEK" under the auspices of the Philippine College of Chest Physicians.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the Republic of the Philippines to be affixed.

Done in the City of Manila, this 10th day of August, in the year of Our Lord, nineteen hundred and ninety-four.

(SGD.) FIDEL V. RAMOS President of the Philippines

By the President:

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(SGD. TEOFISTO T. GUINGONA, JR. Executive Secretary

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