PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, in 2012 an estimated 43,920 people will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer in the United States, and 37,390 will die from the disease; and

WHEREAS, pancreatic cancer is one of the deadliest cancers, is the fourth leading cause of cancer death in the United States, and is the only major cancer with a five-year relative survival rate in the single digits at just 6 percent; and

WHEREAS, when symptoms of pancreatic cancer present themselves, it is late stage, and 74 percent of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first year of their diagnosis while 94 percent of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first five years; and

WHEREAS, approximately 90 deaths will occur in Vermont in 2012; and

WHEREAS, the incidence and death rates for pancreatic cancer are increasing, and pancreatic cancer is anticipated to move from the fourth to the second leading cause of cancer death in the U.S. by 2020, and possibly as early 2015; and

WHEREAS, the federal government invests significantly less money in pancreatic cancer research than it does in any of the other leading cancer killers, and pancreatic cancer research constitutes only approximately 2 percent of the National Cancer Institute's federal research funding, a figure far too low given the severity of the disease, its mortality rate, and how little is known about how to arrest it; and

WHEREAS, the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network is the national organization serving the pancreatic cancer community in Burlington and nationwide through a comprehensive approach that includes public policy, research funding, patient services, public awareness and education related to developing effective treatments and a cure for pancreatic cancer; and

WHEREAS, the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network and its affiliates in Burlington support those patients currently battling pancreatic cancer, as well as to those who have lost loved ones to the disease, and are committed to nothing less than a cure; and

WHEREAS, the good health and well-being of the residents of Burlington are enhanced as a direct result of increased awareness about pancreatic cancer and research into early detection, causes, and effective treatments;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Miro Weinberger, Mayor of the City of Burlington, do hereby proclaim the month of November 2012 to be

PANCREATIC CANCER AWARENESS MONTI

Miro Weinberger Mayor