



2010: The Year of the Lung Congressional Resolution

REQUEST FOR ACTION: Become a cosponsor of S Res 432/H Res 1122 to show your support for the goals and ideals of 2010: The Year of the Lung.

Talking Points

The main objectives of the 2010: The Year of the Lung campaign are the following:

- Increase awareness of lung health and initiate action in communities in the United States and around the world for policy action to combat lung disease.
- Reinforce the need to provide increased resources for basic and clinical research to improve patient care and quality of life.
- Convey the message that most respiratory diseases are treatable, but prevention is highly cost-effective.

Spread the message that clean indoor and outdoor air is a fundamental human right and should be recognized as such.

Background Information

- The Forum of International Respiratory Societies, of which the ACCP is a founding member:
 - Recognizes that hundreds of millions of people around the world suffer each year from treatable and preventable chronic respiratory disease;
 - Acknowledges that lung health has long been neglected in public discourse;
 - Understands the need to unify different health advocates behind one purpose;
 - Expresses the urgency for increased awareness and action on lung health; and, therefore,
 - Declares “2010: The Year of the Lung.”
- Hundreds of millions of people struggle each year for life and breath, due to lung disease, including those with tuberculosis, asthma, pneumonia, influenza, lung cancer, and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease. More than 10 million people die each year from lung disease, with the heaviest toll on the poor, old, young, and weak.
- The cost of lung disease runs into the billions of dollars each year in lost productivity and increased health-care expenses – to say nothing of diminished quality of lives.
- The connection between breath and life is fundamental, yet lung health is not high on the public health agenda.
- The ACCP recognizes the severe impact of chronic lung conditions on patients, families, and communities.