


PROCLAMATION



City and County of Denver

Proclamation No. 12-0624 ***Honoring Patricia Gabow, MD on the occasion of her retirement***

WHEREAS, Dr. Patricia Gabow began her career with Denver General 39 years ago, during which time she has served in many assignments: Chief of the Renal Disease Division, Medical Director, Deputy Manager of Medical Affairs, Manager of Denver General; and the founding and up till now, the only CEO of the Authority known as Denver Health; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gabow's bright strategic vision encouraged her to work with Mayor Wellington Webb to create the Denver Health and Hospital Authority, positioning the enterprise for the future by enabling its flexibility and independence; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gabow has served the residents of the City and County of Denver tirelessly, regardless of their ability to pay for their care, including providing for indigent care last year at a record-level cost of \$453 million dollars; truly giving meaning to the phrase Level I Care for All; and while caring for our communities most vulnerable patients, under Dr. Gabow's leadership, Denver Health has been a national leader in both quality and patient safety and;

WHEREAS, Dr. Gabow assembled a renowned team of professionals to assist Denver Health in embarking on its LEAN program that has brought Denver Health to being nationally ranked for quality at some of the lowest costs in the market, and LEAN has helped to provide Denver Health \$171million dollars in financial benefit to the hospital; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gabow's keen leadership abilities have lead to the creation of a world-class facility, supported by world-class physicians and staff, many of whom have devoted their entire careers to Denver Health and its patients all while operating in the black every year she was CEO; and

WHEREAS, as a result of Dr. Gabow's vision Denver Health became a truly integrated healthcare system, becoming a model healthcare organization for the nation; and has garnered attention and personal visits from national leaders such as HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius, then CMS director Don Berwick, and current White House Deputy Chief of Staff Nancy- Ann DeParle; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Gabow has received many awards and commendations including being on the 100 Most Powerful People in Healthcare, Top 50 Most Powerful Physician Executives, Lifetime Achievement Award from the Denver Business Journal, and the NCQA Health Leader Quality Award; and

WHEREAS, the City will miss her passion and leadership, we will **especially** miss her towering presence, her ability to create the future of healthcare, and her unsurpassed dedication to our patients and the mission of Denver Health.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER:

Section 1. That Denver City Council hereby recognizes Dr. Gabow's years of service to keep Denver's citizens healthy and for her professional and personal dedication to the City and County of Denver and on her retirement scheduled for September 4, 2012, she will leave a void that will be challenging to fill.

Section 2. That the Clerk of the City and County of Denver shall attest and affix the seal of the City and County of Denver to this proclamation and that a copy be transmitted to Dr. Patricia Gabow.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL August 27, 2012

PRESIDENT