

# City of El Paso de Robles

## PROCLAMATION

### Through With Chew Week February 20-24, 2012 The Great American Spit-Out February 23, 2012

**WHEREAS**, the San Luis Obispo County's Tobacco Control Coalition is concerned about the health and welfare of the citizens of Paso Robles; and

**WHEREAS**, many of the County's youth and young adults are known to use chew (spit) tobacco; and

**WHEREAS**, the rate of spit tobacco usage among California teens 3% for 9<sup>th</sup> graders, 5% among 11<sup>th</sup> graders, and 9% among alternative education students as reported by the California Healthy Kids Survey; and

**WHEREAS**, the rate of spit tobacco usage reported by the CHKS for Paso Robles was above the state average at 5% for 9<sup>th</sup> graders, 5% for 11<sup>th</sup> graders and 19% for alternative secondary education; and

**WHEREAS**, spit tobacco contains 28 known carcinogens including formaldehyde, nickel, polonium-210 (a radioactive compound) and can contain up to 100 times the level of nitrosamines lawfully permitted in regulated products like bacon or beer; and

**WHEREAS**, people who consume 8-10 dips or chews per day receive the same amount of nicotine as a heavy smoker who smokes 30-40 cigarettes a days; and

**WHEREAS**, spit tobacco users are up to fifty times more likely to get oral cancer than non-users; and

**WHEREAS**, spit tobacco increases a person's risk of cancers of the lip, tongue, cheeks, gums, floor and roof of the mouth, throat, larynx and esophagus.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that I, Duane Picanco, by virtue of the authority vested in me as Mayor, and speaking on behalf of the entire City Council, formally designate the week of February 20-24, 2012, as **THROUGH WITH CHEW WEEK** and Thursday, February 23, 2012, as the day of **THE GREAT AMERICAN SPIT-OUT** and, in so doing, urge citizens to make publicly known the dangers of spit tobacco use and do also urge spit tobacco users to demonstrate to themselves, their friends, and their families that they can quit for the day of the Great American Spit-out.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, on this 7th day of February, 2012,  
I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the  
City of Paso Robles to be affixed.



  
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Duane Picanco, Mayor  
City of El Paso de Robles