

WHEREAS, physicians are prescribing massage to complement traditional medical treatment for illness, injury and pain, and massage therapy has become an important part of work-related stress relief and recovery from sports-related injuries;

WHEREAS, consumers are spending in excess of \$2 to \$4 billion annually on massage therapy and more insurance companies are covering it;

WHEREAS, therapeutic massage can benefit people of all ages;

WHEREAS, research has shown massage may be helpful in controlling pain, relieving stress, boosting immune system functioning, and reducing heart rate and blood pressure. Its benefits have also been studied on people with lower back pain, migraines and on acquired immune deficiency syndrome and cancer patients, among others; and

WHEREAS, the American Massage Therapy Association (AMTA), a 58,000-member professional association for massage therapists, provides consumer and professional education information on massage and helps consumers and health professionals locate qualified massage therapists in their area.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Patricia C. Dunn, Mayor of the City of Greenville, North Carolina, do hereby proclaim the week of October 24-30, 2010 as

MASSAGE THERAPY AWARENESS WEEK

in Greenville and commend its observance to our citizens.

This 20th day of October, 2010.

Patricia C. Dunn, Mayor