

# Honorary Proclamation



BILL RITTER, JR.  
GOVERNOR

## COLORADO PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE AWARENESS WEEK November 9 – 15, 2009

*WHEREAS, prescription drug abuse is the unauthorized use of prescription medications for nonmedical reasons; and*

*WHEREAS, according to the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, yearly deaths related to the most commonly abused prescription drugs in Colorado nearly doubled from 298 in 2000 to 562 in 2008; and*

*WHEREAS, although substance (tobacco, alcohol, marijuana and prescription drugs) abuse and addiction is recognized as a treatable disease, it carries a stigma that can stop individuals from seeking treatment; and*

*WHEREAS, Peer Assistance Services (PAS), Inc. is a nonprofit agency dedicated to providing accessible prevention and intervention services in workplaces and communities, and focuses on substance abuse and related issues; and*

*WHEREAS, PAS is launching a Prescription Drug Abuse Awareness campaign called "Rx Drugs: Not Yours. Not Safe."; and*

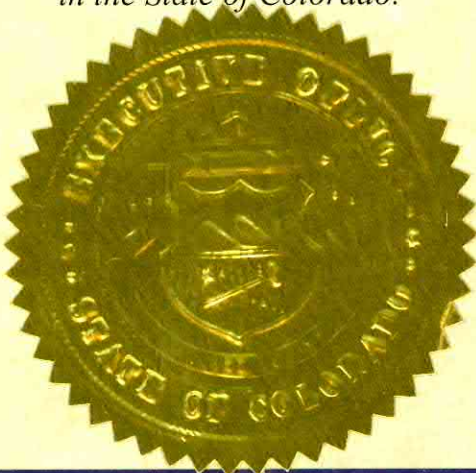
*WHEREAS, the campaign will provide information and education for health care professionals, educators, patients and the general public, while advocating for a community-wide safe medication disposal program; and*

*WHEREAS, prescription drug abuse is an issue that affects the lives of thousands of Coloradans, and the most effective tool against prescription drug abuse and addiction is prevention through education and awareness;*

*Therefore, I, Bill Ritter, Jr., Governor of the State of Colorado, do hereby proclaim November 9 – 15, 2009,*

## PRESCRIPTION DRUG ABUSE AWARENESS WEEK

*in the State of Colorado.*



*GIVEN under my hand and the Executive Seal of the State of Colorado, this seventeenth day of September, 2009*

*Bill Ritter, Jr.*

Bill Ritter, Jr.  
Governor