

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 4

BY SENATOR RISER AND REPRESENTATIVE PYLANT

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

To designate March 2014 as "Breast Cancer Awareness Month" in Louisiana.

WHEREAS, because breast cancer typically produces no symptoms when the tumor is small and most easily cured, it is very important for women to follow recommended screening guidelines for detecting breast cancer at an early stage; and

WHEREAS, according to the Centers for Disease Control, over two hundred thousand Americans are diagnosed with breast cancer annually and nearly fifty thousand die each year from breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, while the overwhelming percentage of breast cancer sufferers are women, breast cancer is diagnosed in more than forty thousand men annually; and

WHEREAS, breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death for all women in the United States and the leading overall cause of cancer death in women between the ages of twenty and fifty-nine; and

WHEREAS, as more attention is focused upon breast cancer and earlier detection results, the number of breast cancer survivors has risen to over three million currently in the United States; and

WHEREAS, African American women diagnosed with breast cancer are more likely to die as a result of that cancer diagnosis than Caucasian women and are less likely to survive five years beyond diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, the Centers for Disease Control studies indicate that these poor outcomes result primarily from being diagnosed at a later stage in the disease and receiving treatment at a later stage; and

WHEREAS, presumably, increased knowledge of the warning signs and increased public attention on breast cancer will result in more timely diagnoses and treatment and an increase in survival rates especially for African American women; and

WHEREAS, nearly forty thousand American women will die from breast cancer this year; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana has one of the highest rates of deaths from breast cancer in the United States.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby designate March 2014 as "Breast Cancer Awareness Month".

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

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SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES