

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 13

BY SENATOR HARRIS

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Louisiana Tumor Registry, the faculty of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans, and the School of Public Health for their significant contributions to the fight against cancer.

WHEREAS, the primary function of a cancer registry is to monitor the occurrence of cancer in a particular population, and thus, to accumulate information that is necessary to fight the disease through research, clinical trials, cancer management, allocation of resources, and ultimately, development of cures; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Tumor Registry is a program in the School of Public Health in the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans and ranks among the very best of the nation's cancer registries; and

WHEREAS, the registry includes the central office with two in-house regions at the LSU Health New Orleans School of Public Health, and regional offices at Mary Bird Perkins Cancer Center in Baton Rouge, Acadiana Medical Research Foundation in Lafayette, and the University of Louisiana at Monroe; and

WHEREAS, Louisiana law designates cancer as a reportable disease, and hospitals, pathology laboratories, radiation centers, physicians, nursing homes, hospices, as well as other licensed health care facilities and providers who diagnose or treat cancer must report cancer cases to the Louisiana Tumor Registry; and

WHEREAS, data provided by the Louisiana Tumor Registry to researchers, clinicians, cancer registrars, public health officials, legislators, policymakers, community groups, and members of the public help to improve health policy and strengthen the fight against cancer; and

WHEREAS, the registry is one of only nineteen cancer registries in the country comprising the National Cancer Institute's Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results Program, or SEER Program, which is the authoritative source of information on cancer incidence and survival in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Tumor Registry was one of nine NCI-SEER registries recently awarded first place for data quality; the eleventh consecutive year that the registry has been recognized for the high quality, completeness, and timeliness of its data; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Tumor Registry also earned Gold Certification again this year by the North American Association of Central Cancer Registries (NAACCR) which designation recognizes registries that have achieved the highest NAACCR standard for complete, accurate, and timely data to calculate standard incidence statistics for the year reviewed; a designation which the Louisiana Tumor Registry has earned every year since 1997; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Tumor Registry was the only cancer registry in the United States to be awarded the cancer research award at the twentieth anniversary meeting of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Program of Cancer Registries; and

WHEREAS, the Louisiana Tumor Registry is one of four cancer registries in the United States to earn a CDC award to collect data on pre-cancerous lesions of cervical cancers; one of five registries to earn a CDC award to collect data on cancer recurrence and progression; and one of seven registries to earn a CDC award to implement the Caroline Pryce Walker Conquer Childhood Cancer Act to combat pediatric cancers; and

WHEREAS, the registry was also given the Registry of Distinction Award from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's National Program of Cancer Registries this year; and

WHEREAS, it is appropriate to recognize the outstanding and exceptionally high quality of the work of dedicated staff as the data they collect and report is critical to the health of not only the people of Louisiana, but also contribute to the nation's policies and decisions about resources allocated to stopping this devastating disease.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Louisiana Tumor Registry, the faculty of the Louisiana State University Health Sciences Center in New Orleans, and the School of Public Health for their significant contributions to collecting, analyzing, and sharing statistics on cancer, which have been so important in fighting this devastating disease at the local, state, and national

levels.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Larry Hollier, MD, Chancellor of LSU Health New Orleans, and to Dr. Xiao-Cheng Wu, Professor and Director of the Louisiana Tumor Registry at LSU Health New Orleans School of Public Health.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE