

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 278

Designating September 2011 as “National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 23, 2011

Mr. SESSIONS (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. WICKER, Mr. BROWN of Massachusetts, Mr. KERRY, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota, Mr. LEE, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. AKAKA, Mrs. BOXER, Mr. KIRK, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. JOHANNNS, and Mr. BLUNT) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Designating September 2011 as “National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month”.

Whereas countless families in the United States live with prostate cancer;

Whereas 1 in 6 males in the United States will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in his lifetime;

Whereas prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed non-skin cancer and the second most common cause of cancer-related deaths among males in the United States;

Whereas in 2011, the American Cancer Society estimates that 240,890 males in the United States will be diag-

nosed with prostate cancer, and 33,720 males will die from the disease;

Whereas 30 percent of newly diagnosed prostate cancer cases occur in males under the age of 65;

Whereas approximately every 14 seconds, a male in the United States turns 50 years old and increases his odds of developing cancer, including prostate cancer;

Whereas African-American males suffer from a prostate cancer incidence rate that is up to 65 percent higher than White males and have double the prostate cancer mortality rate of White males;

Whereas obesity is a significant predictor of the severity of prostate cancer;

Whereas the probability that obesity will lead to death and high cholesterol levels is strongly associated with advanced prostate cancer;

Whereas males in the United States with 1 family member diagnosed with prostate cancer have a 1 in 3 chance of being diagnosed with the disease, males with 2 family members diagnosed have an 83 percent chance, and males with 3 family members diagnosed have a 97 percent chance;

Whereas screening by a digital rectal examination and a prostate-specific antigen blood test can detect the disease at the early stages, increasing the chances of survival for more than 5 years to nearly 100 percent;

Whereas only 33 percent of males survive more than 5 years if diagnosed during the late stages of the disease;

Whereas there are no noticeable symptoms of prostate cancer while it is still in the early stages, making screening critical;

Whereas ongoing research promises further improvements in prostate cancer prevention, early detection, and treatment; and

Whereas educating people in the United States, including health care providers, about prostate cancer and early detection strategies is crucial to saving the lives of males and preserving and protecting families: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) designates September 2011 as “National
3 Prostate Cancer Awareness Month”;

4 (2) declares that steps should be taken—

5 (A) to raise awareness about the impor-
6 tance of screening methods for, and treatment
7 of, prostate cancer;

8 (B) to increase research funding that is
9 commensurate with the burden of prostate can-
10 cer so that—

11 (i) screening and treatment for pros-
12 tate cancer may be improved;

13 (ii) the causes of prostate cancer may
14 be discovered; and

15 (iii) a cure for prostate cancer may be
16 developed; and

1 (C) to continue to consider ways for im-
2 proving access to, and the quality of, health
3 care services for detecting and treating prostate
4 cancer; and

5 (3) calls on the people of the United States, in-
6 terested groups, and affected persons—

7 (A) to promote awareness of prostate can-
8 cer;

9 (B) to take an active role in the fight to
10 end the devastating effects of prostate cancer
11 on individuals, families, and the economy; and

12 (C) to observe National Prostate Cancer
13 Awareness Month with appropriate ceremonies
14 and activities.

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