

SENATE RESOLUTION

8617

By Senator L. Wilson

1 WHEREAS, Breast cancer is among the most commonly diagnosed
2 cancers, and its many forms comprise the second leading cause of
3 cancer deaths among women in the United States; and

4 WHEREAS, From 2016 through 2020, on average, breast cancer caused
5 the deaths of nineteen out of every one hundred thousand people in
6 Washington; and

7 WHEREAS, It is estimated that in 2023, approximately two hundred
8 ninety-seven thousand seven hundred ninety women will be diagnosed
9 with breast cancer and over forty-three thousand will die from it;
10 and

11 WHEREAS, The form of breast cancer known as Triple Negative
12 Breast Cancer accounts for about fifteen to twenty percent of all
13 diagnosed, invasive breast cancer cases in the United States; and

14 WHEREAS, More than fifty-three thousand seven hundred new breast
15 cancer cases in 2019 in the United States were Triple Negative Breast
16 Cancer with higher prevalence among younger women, Black and Hispanic
17 women, women with type 2 diabetes or carrying excess weight in the
18 abdomen area, and those with BRCA1 mutations; and

19 WHEREAS, Due to its aggressive behavior, Triple Negative Breast
20 Cancer grows quickly and is not only more likely to have spread by
21 the time it is discovered, it also is more likely than other types of
22 breast cancer to come back after treatment; and

1 WHEREAS, People diagnosed with metastatic Triple Negative
2 Breast Cancer have less than a thirty percent chance of
3 surviving past five years; and

4 WHEREAS, Triple Negative Breast Cancer cells do not contain
5 three key receptors that medicines typically target in other
6 types of breast cancers, meaning there are limited treatment
7 options, although patients with an early diagnosis can often be
8 treated with chemotherapy, radiation, and surgery; and

9 WHEREAS, Recent innovation in targeted therapies have fueled
10 advances in the fight against Triple Negative Breast Cancer,
11 although limits on available therapies continue to make treating
12 this disease a challenge; and

13 WHEREAS, Advances in breast cancer screening and treatment
14 over the past few decades have reduced the overall breast cancer
15 mortality rate, yet the disproportionate impact of Triple
16 Negative Breast Cancer on racial and ethnic minority communities
17 raises questions about what drives the disparities; and

18 WHEREAS, Only seventy-five percent of women in Washington
19 have had a mammogram screening in the past two years; and

20 WHEREAS, It is necessary to promote Triple Negative Breast
21 Cancer education, raise awareness about the disease-related
22 disparities, and tackle inequities within the health care
23 delivery system such as inadequate access to screening,
24 diagnostic testing, and care, to improve early detection and
25 survival; and

26 WHEREAS, Governor Jay Inslee is issuing a proclamation today
27 celebrating the month of March as Triple Negative Breast Cancer
28 Awareness Month;

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State
30 Senate recognize the Governor's proclamation, and together,
31 honor the month of March as Triple Negative Breast Cancer
32 Awareness Month; and

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Senate encourage awareness
34 and education about Triple Negative Breast Cancer and patient
35 access to care, services, and medicines along the entire
36 continuum of care.

37 I, Sarah Bannister, Secretary of the Senate,

1 do hereby certify that this is a true and
2 correct copy of Senate Resolution 8617,
3 adopted by the Senate
4 March 1, 2023

5 SARAH BANNISTER
6 Secretary of the Senate