

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 538

Expressing support for designation of May as “National Bladder Cancer Awareness Month”.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 3, 2014

Mr. CARTWRIGHT (for himself, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. COHEN, Ms. NORTON, Mr. CONNOLLY, Mr. ADERHOLT, and Mr. MCGOVERN) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

RESOLUTION

Expressing support for designation of May as “National Bladder Cancer Awareness Month”.

Whereas 500,000 families in the United States live with bladder cancer;

Whereas more than 72,000 people are expected to be diagnosed with bladder cancer and 15,000 people are expected to die from the disease in 2013 alone;

Whereas bladder cancer affects people of all ages and backgrounds and is among the top 10 cancers with the highest incidence rates in the United States;

Whereas bladder cancer is known as one of the most expensive cancers to treat on a per patient basis with a recur-

rence rate of approximately 50 to 80 percent, requiring lifelong surveillance;

Whereas bladder cancer symptoms, such as blood in the urine, are easily recognized, however, many are unaware of the threat of bladder cancer, often prolonging time to diagnosis;

Whereas if diagnosed early, bladder cancer is treatable;

Whereas military veterans are twice as likely as non-veterans to be diagnosed with bladder cancer;

Whereas women are often diagnosed at a later stage in the development of bladder cancer, and when diagnosed at the same stage as men, women have a worse prognosis;

Whereas if diagnosis and treatment are delayed, the life expectancy of an individual with bladder cancer decreases;

Whereas the quality of life of a person with bladder cancer will depend on future treatment and diagnosis developments, which will rely on research advancements;

Whereas there have been no new treatments developed for bladder cancer in more than 20 years;

Whereas research advancements for bladder cancer are limited by lack of awareness about the disease within the medical community and general public;

Whereas increased awareness will promote early diagnosis and increase chances of survival;

Whereas increased awareness will bolster public support of the disease and thus increase funding for innovative research and the development of new treatment options and diagnostic tools;

Whereas traditionally on the first Saturday in May, survivors, caregivers, and loved ones walk together throughout the United States to raise awareness of bladder cancer;

Whereas the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network and its community of patients, caregivers, and specialists, seek to foster a community of hope and support, fund and conduct research for innovative treatments and diagnostic tools, and increase public awareness and understanding of bladder cancer; and

Whereas May would be an appropriate month to designate as “National Bladder Cancer Awareness Month”: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) supports the designation of “National Bladder Cancer Awareness Month”;

3 (2) supports the goals and ideals of “National Bladder Cancer Awareness Month”; and

4 (3) calls on the people of the United States, interested groups, and affected persons to—

5 (A) promote awareness of bladder cancer
6 and to foster understanding of the impact of
7 the disease on patients and their families and
8 caregivers;

9 (B) take an active role in the fight to end
10 bladder cancer; and
11

- 1 (C) observe “National Bladder Cancer
- 2 Awareness Month” with appropriate ceremonies
- 3 and activities.

