

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 248

Designating September 2015 as “National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 5, 2015

Mr. SESSIONS (for himself, Mr. SHELBY, Mr. MENENDEZ, Mr. VITTER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. MORAN, Mrs. BOXER, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. KING, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOKER, and Mr. BOOZMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

RESOLUTION

Designating September 2015 as “National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month”.

Whereas over 2,900,000 families in the United States live with prostate cancer;

Whereas 1 in 7 males in the United States will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in their lifetimes;

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

Whereas in 2015, the National Cancer Institute estimates that 220,800 men will be diagnosed with, and more than 27,000 men will die of, prostate cancer;

Whereas 40 percent of newly diagnosed prostate cancer cases occur in males under the age of 65;

Whereas the odds of developing prostate cancer rise rapidly after age 50;

Whereas African-American males suffer from a prostate cancer incidence rate that is significantly 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 having a father or brother with prostate cancer more than doubles the risk of a man developing prostate cancer, with a particularly high risk for men who have a brother with the disease;

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

Whereas only 38 percent of males survive more than 5 years if diagnosed with prostate cancer after the cancer has metastasized;

Whereas there are no noticeable symptoms of prostate cancer while prostate cancer is in the early stages, making appropriate 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 2015 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 encourage research so that screen-
9 ing and treatment for prostate cancer may be
10 improved, the causes of prostate cancer may be
11 discovered, and a cure for prostate cancer may
12 be developed; and

13 (C) to continue to consider ways for im-
14 proving access to, and the quality of, health
15 care services for detecting and treating prostate
16 cancer; and

17 (3) calls on the people of the United States, in-
18 terest groups, and affected persons—

1 (A) to promote awareness of prostate can-
2 cer;

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

6 (C) to observe National Prostate Cancer
7 Awareness Month with appropriate ceremonies
8 and activities.

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