

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 17

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 88

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 17—Relative to Prostate Cancer Awareness Month.

[Filed with Secretary of State September 14, 2011.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 17, La Malfa. Prostate Cancer Awareness Month.

This measure would designate the month of September 2011 as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month in the State of California.

WHEREAS, Prostate cancer impacts all Californians and has touched the Senate of the State of California last year with the passing of Senator Dave Cox after a 13-year battle with the disease; and

WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society estimates that one in six men will develop prostate cancer in their lifetime. Approximately 240,890 new cases of the disease in the United States are predicted for 2011, resulting in nearly 33,720 deaths; and

WHEREAS, In California, prostate cancer is the most common cancer among men in all race and ethnic groups. African American men are more likely to develop this disease than any other group of men; and

WHEREAS, In California, approximately 25,030 men are predicted to be diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2011 and each day more than 11 California men will die of this disease; and

WHEREAS, While prostate cancer is a leading cause of cancer deaths in men, little is known about this disease and there are usually no symptoms in the early stages; and

WHEREAS, The survival rate approaches 100 percent when prostate cancer is diagnosed and treated early, but drops to 30 percent when the disease spreads to other parts of the body; and

WHEREAS, A prostate-specific antigen (PSA) blood test and a digital rectal examination (DRE) diagnose most prostate cancers before symptoms develop; and

WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society recommends that health care providers offer the PSA and DRE to men who have at least a 10-year life expectancy, beginning when the men are 50 years of age; and

WHEREAS, Men who have a father, son, or brother who has been diagnosed with prostate cancer before 65 years of age, and African American men should be offered a PSA and DRE beginning when they are 45 years of age; and

WHEREAS, Men who have multiple family members who have been diagnosed with prostate cancer before 65 years of age should be offered a

PSA and DRE beginning when they are 40 years of age; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring, That the Legislature designates the month of September 2011 as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month in the State of California and encourages public officials and citizens of California to observe the month with appropriate activities and programs; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature joins communities across our nation to increase the awareness of the importance of early detection and treatment of prostate cancer; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.