

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 2, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 161

Introduced by Assembly Member Waldron

(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Alejo, Travis Allen, Arambula, Atkins, Baker, Bigelow, Bloom, Bonilla, Bonta, Brough, Brown, Burke, Calderon, Campos, Chang, Chau, Chávez, Chiu, Chu, Cooley, Cooper, Dababneh, Dahle, Daly, Dodd, Eggman, Frazier, Gallagher, Cristina Garcia, Eduardo Garcia, Gatto, Gipson, Gonzalez, Gordon, Gray, Grove, Hadley, Harper, Holden, Irwin, Jones, Jones-Sawyer, Kim, Lackey, Levine, Linder, Lopez, Low, Maienschein, Mathis, Mayes, McCarty, Medina, Melendez, Mullin, Nazarian, Obernolte, O'Donnell, Olsen, Quirk, Rendon, Rodriguez, Salas, Santiago, Steinorth, Mark Stone, Thurmond, Ting, Wagner, Weber, Wilk, and Wood)

March 30, 2016

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 161—Relative to Bladder Cancer Awareness Month.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 161, as amended, Waldron. Bladder Cancer Awareness Month.

This measure would proclaim the month of May 2016 as Bladder Cancer Awareness Month.

Fiscal committee: no.

- 1 WHEREAS, Five hundred thousand families in the United States
- 2 live with bladder cancer; and

1 WHEREAS, More than 74,000 people in the United States are
2 expected to be diagnosed with bladder cancer and 16,000 will die
3 due to the disease in 2016 alone; and

4 WHEREAS, Approximately 7,150 people will be newly
5 diagnosed with bladder cancer in California this year and more
6 than 1,500 Californians are expected to die of the disease; and

7 WHEREAS, Bladder cancer affects adults of all ages and
8 backgrounds and is the fifth most common nonskin cancer in the
9 United States, exceeded only by breast, lung, prostate, and colon
10 cancers, yet knowledge of the frequency and severity of bladder
11 cancer is minimal; and

12 WHEREAS, Bladder cancer is known as one of the most
13 expensive cancers to treat on a per patient basis and has a
14 recurrence rate of approximately 50 to 80 percent, requiring
15 lifelong surveillance; and

16 WHEREAS, Bladder cancer symptoms, such as blood in the
17 urine, are easily recognized, but many people are unaware of the
18 threat of bladder cancer, often prolonging the time to diagnosis;
19 and

20 WHEREAS, If diagnosed early, bladder cancer is treatable; and

21 WHEREAS, Military veterans are twice as likely as nonveterans
22 to be diagnosed with bladder cancer; and

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

26 WHEREAS, Smoking is the most well-established risk factor
27 for bladder cancer, with the incidence of the disease three to four
28 times greater in smokers than in nonsmokers; and

29 WHEREAS, If diagnosis and treatment are delayed, the life
30 expectancy of an individual with bladder cancer decreases; and

31 WHEREAS, The quality of life of a person with bladder cancer
32 will depend on future treatment and diagnostic developments,
33 which will rely on research advancements; and

34 WHEREAS, There have been no new treatments approved by
35 the federal Food and Drug Administration for bladder cancer in
36 over 10 years; and

37 WHEREAS, Research advancements for bladder cancer are
38 limited by lack of awareness about the disease within the medical
39 community and general public; and

1 WHEREAS, Increased awareness will promote early diagnosis
2 and increase the chances of survival; and

3 WHEREAS, Increased awareness will bolster public support of
4 treatment of the disease and thus increase funding for innovative
5 research and the development of new treatment options and
6 diagnostic tools; and

7 WHEREAS, Traditionally, in May of each year, survivors,
8 caregivers, and loved ones walk together throughout the United
9 States to raise awareness of bladder cancer; and

10 WHEREAS, The Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network and its
11 community of patients, caregivers, and specialists seek to foster a
12 community of hope and support, to fund and conduct research for
13 innovative treatments and diagnostic tools, and to increase public
14 awareness and understanding of bladder cancer; now, therefore,
15 be it

16 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
17 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature hereby proclaims the
18 month of May 2016 as Bladder Cancer Awareness Month; and be
19 it further

20 *Resolved*, That the Legislature calls upon the people of
21 California, interested groups, and affected persons to promote
22 awareness of bladder cancer and to foster understanding of the
23 impact of the disease on patients and their families and caregivers,
24 to take an active role in the fight to end bladder cancer, and to
25 observe Bladder Cancer Awareness Month with appropriate
26 ceremonies and activities; and be it further

27 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
28 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.