

Introduced by Senator La Malfa

February 24, 2011

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

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 17, as introduced, 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.

Fiscal committee: no.

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

5 WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society estimates that one
6 in six men will develop prostate cancer in their lifetime.
7 Approximately 217,730 new cases of the disease in the United
8 States were predicted for 2010, resulting in nearly 32,050 deaths;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, In California, prostate cancer is the most common
11 cancer among men in all race and ethnic groups. African American
12 men are 50 percent more likely to develop this disease than any
13 other group of men; and

14 WHEREAS, In California, approximately 20,120 men were
15 predicted to be diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2010 and each
16 day more than eight California men will die of this disease; and

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

4 WHEREAS, The survival rate approaches 100 percent when
5 prostate cancer is diagnosed and treated early, but drops to 31
6 percent when the disease spreads to other parts of the body; and

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

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

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

18 WHEREAS, Men who have multiple family members who have
19 been diagnosed with prostate cancer before 65 years of age should
20 be offered a PSA and DRE annually beginning when they are 40
21 years of age; now, therefore, be it

22 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*
23 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature designates the month of
24 September 2011 as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month in the State
25 of California and that public officials and citizens of California
26 are encouraged to observe the month with appropriate activities
27 and programs; and be it further

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

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