

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 26—SENATORS PORTER, AMODEI, CARE, CARLTON, COFFIN, JACOBSEN, JAMES, MATHEWS, MCGINNESS, NEAL, O’CONNELL, O’DONNELL, RAGGIO, RAWSON, RHOADS, SCHNEIDER, SHAFFER, TITUS, TOWNSEND, WASHINGTON AND WIENER

APRIL 2, 2001

Read and Adopted

SUMMARY—Proclaims April 2, 2001, as Prostate Cancer Awareness Day and September as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. (BDR R-1519)

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EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION—Proclaiming April 2, 2001, as Prostate Cancer Awareness Day and September as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month.

- 1 WHEREAS, In the United States, a man is diagnosed every 3 minutes and
- 2 one dies every 14 minutes from prostate cancer, the second leading cause
- 3 of death in men with cancer; and
- 4 WHEREAS, Of the approximately 30 million men over 50 years of age in
- 5 the United States, about 42 percent will experience prostate cancer
- 6 sometime during their lives; and
- 7 WHEREAS, At this time, the cause of prostate cancer is unknown, it is
- 8 not preventable, and treatment is most effective during the early stages; and
- 9 WHEREAS, Former Nevada Governor Bob Miller, prominent Nevada
- 10 television news reporter John Tyson and former presidential candidate
- 11 Robert Dole have been at the forefront in educating Nevadans and the rest
- 12 of the American public about prostate cancer; and
- 13 WHEREAS, A study by the National Academies of Science of military
- 14 participants in U.S. nuclear weapons tests during the 1950s, including the
- 15 Nevada Test Site, found that deaths from prostate cancer were 20 percent
- 16 higher among nuclear test participants; and
- 17 WHEREAS, Because many men with prostate cancer have no symptoms,
- 18 they feel confident that they are in good health and do not protect
- 19 themselves by getting regular screening; and
- 20 WHEREAS, Half or more of primary care doctors do not offer screening
- 21 for prostate cancer, even to men at risk, such as males with a family history
- 22 of the disease and African-American men who have a rate 32 percent
- 23 higher than their Caucasian counterparts; and
- 24



1 WHEREAS, Because of the lack of clinical trials, the American Cancer  
2 Society, the National Cancer Institute and other organizations take a  
3 conservative approach to screening for prostate cancer, believing that the  
4 benefit of screening has not been proven; and

5 WHEREAS, Until recently, many doctors felt that testing discovered  
6 many cases of cancer that need not be treated, causing unnecessary stress  
7 to the patient, and that treatment sometimes does more harm than good,  
8 diminishing the quality of life of their patients; and

9 WHEREAS, If not detected early, prostate cancer cells can escape the  
10 confines of the prostate, making treatment very difficult and increasing the  
11 mortality rate of the disease; and

12 WHEREAS, Prostate cancer is primarily diagnosed in the early stages  
13 through a combination of two widely used diagnostic tests, prostate-  
14 specific antigen (PSA) and digital rectal examination (DRE); and

15 WHEREAS, Before the widespread use of the PSA test just over a decade  
16 ago, 70 percent of men diagnosed with prostate cancer were diagnosed in  
17 the advanced stages of the disease; and

18 WHEREAS, Now, because of more frequent use of early testing by the  
19 PSA and DRE, 70 percent of men are diagnosed in the earlier stages,  
20 leading to better chances of survival; and

21 WHEREAS, Scientists are enthusiastic about research to detect and find a  
22 cure for prostate cancer, including treating patients with surgery or  
23 radiation; and

24 WHEREAS, Studies of treatments using ultrasound are proving  
25 promising in that they may be more effective and have fewer side effects  
26 than other treatments; and

27 WHEREAS, Prostate cancer affects not only the men afflicted with this  
28 disease, but also affects their families and friends; and

29 WHEREAS, Early detection and treatment of this disease are critically  
30 important; now, therefore, be it

31 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, THE ASSEMBLY  
32 CONCURRING, That the Nevada Legislature is committed to protecting  
33 men's health and saving lives by continuing to create greater public  
34 understanding of prostate cancer and the need for early detection, informed  
35 choices and continued research; and be it further

36 RESOLVED, That the members of the Legislature proclaim April 2, 2001,  
37 as Prostate Cancer Awareness Day and September as Prostate Cancer  
38 Awareness Month.

