

115TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. _____

Designating September 2017 as “National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. CRAPO) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on _____

RESOLUTION

Designating September 2017 as “National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month”.

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

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

Whereas prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed nonskin cancer and the third-leading cause of cancer-related deaths among men in the United States;

Whereas the American Cancer Society estimates that in 2017, 161,360 men will be diagnosed with, and more than 26,730 men will die of, prostate cancer;

Whereas 43 percent of newly diagnosed prostate cancer cases occur in men under the age of 65;

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

Whereas African-American men suffer from a prostate cancer incidence rate that is significantly higher than that of White men and have double the prostate cancer mortality rate than that of White men;

Whereas having a father or brother with prostate cancer more than doubles the risk of a man developing prostate cancer, with a higher risk for men who have a brother with the disease and the highest risk for men with several affected relatives;

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 29 percent of men survive more than 5 years if diagnosed with prostate cancer after the cancer has metastasized;

Whereas there are no noticeable symptoms of prostate cancer in the early stages, making appropriate screening critical;

Whereas, in fiscal year 2017, the Director of the National Institutes of Health supported approximately \$274,000,000 in research projects focused specifically on prostate cancer;

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 de-

tection strategies is crucial to saving the lives of men and preserving and protecting families: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) designates September 2017 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—

9 (i) to improve screening and treat-
10 ment for prostate cancer;

11 (ii) to discover the causes of prostate
12 cancer; and

13 (iii) to develop a cure for prostate
14 cancer; and

15 (C) to continue to consider ways to im-
16 prove access to, and the quality of, health care
17 services for detecting and treating prostate can-
18 cer; and

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

21 (A) to promote awareness of prostate can-
22 cer;

1 (B) to take an active role in the fight to
2 end the devastating effects of prostate cancer
3 on individuals, families, and the economy; and
4 (C) to observe National Prostate Cancer
5 Awareness Month with appropriate ceremonies
6 and activities.