
SENATE JOINT MEMORIAL 8000

State of Washington

56th Legislature

1999 Regular Session

By Senators Kohl-Welles, Deccio, Thibaudeau, Winsley, Prentice, Hale, Patterson, Wojahn, Loveland, Shin, B. Sheldon, Benton, Spanel, Fairley, T. Sheldon, Bauer, Jacobsen, Eide, Gardner, Franklin, Fraser, Kline, McCaslin, Johnson, Oke, Rasmussen, Costa and McAuliffe

Read first time 01/11/1999. Referred to Committee on Health & Long Term Care.

1 TO THE HONORABLE WILLIAM J. CLINTON, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
2 STATES, AND TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE
3 OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND TO THE SENATE AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF
4 THE UNITED STATES, IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED, AND TO THE HONORABLE SLADE
5 GORTON AND THE HONORABLE PATTY MURRAY, UNITED STATES SENATORS, AND TO
6 THE MEMBERS OF THE WASHINGTON STATE DELEGATION IN CONGRESS:

7 We, your Memorialists, the Senate and House of Representatives of
8 the State of Washington, in legislative session assembled, respectfully
9 represent and petition as follows:

10 WHEREAS, Prostate cancer, second only to lung cancer, is the
11 leading cause of death among men; and

12 WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society estimates that, in 1998 in the
13 United States, approximately 185,000 new cases of prostate cancer will
14 be diagnosed and that approximately 39,000 prostate cancer-related
15 deaths occurred; and

16 WHEREAS, With an estimated 9,000,000 men currently afflicted, the
17 prevalence of prostate cancer makes it epidemic in the United States;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, African-American men in the United States have the highest
20 incidence of prostate cancer of any population in the world; and

1 WHEREAS, The number of prostate cancer cases diagnosed has
2 increased significantly over the past 35 years, partly as a result of
3 the widespread use of improved screening techniques, including
4 screening for the prostate specific antigen; and

5 WHEREAS, Awareness needs to be strengthened among men aged 40 and
6 older to alert them to the risk of prostate cancer; and

7 WHEREAS, Prostate cancer research is woefully underfunded.
8 Significantly more research is needed to determine the causes and most
9 effective treatment for prostate cancer. In 1998, though it comprised
10 20% of all new cancer cases, excluding skin cancer, prostate cancer
11 received less than 4% of federal cancer research funds; and

12 WHEREAS, The National Prostate Cancer Coalition, a network of
13 prostate cancer patients advocates and supporting organizations, has
14 presented more than 500,000 signatures to Congress and the President
15 urging increased research funding for prostate cancer;

16 NOW, THEREFORE, Your Memorialists respectfully pray that Congress
17 and the President provide increased funding for prostate cancer
18 research.

19 BE IT RESOLVED, That copies of this Memorial be immediately
20 transmitted to the Honorable William J. Clinton, President of the
21 United States, the Honorable Slade Gorton, the Honorable Patty Murray,
22 the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the House of
23 Representatives, and each member of Congress from the State of
24 Washington.

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