

HR 9143

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House Resolution

A resolution designating September 2004 as "Prostate Cancer Awareness Month" in Florida.

WHEREAS, Florida ranks second-highest in the nation in the occurrence of and deaths resulting from prostate cancer, which is the most common cancer diagnosed among men in this state, and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society estimates that more than 17,000 new cases of prostate cancer will be diagnosed among men in Florida during 2004 and that more than 2,000 deaths will be attributed to the disease, and

WHEREAS, black men have the highest prostate cancer mortality rate in the world, a rate that is twice that of white men, and

WHEREAS, the survival rate for prostate cancer victims is 100 percent if the disease is diagnosed in its early stages; accordingly, the American Cancer Society recommends that annual testing begin at age 50, except for men at high risk, such as African Americans and men with a family history of the disease, for whom it is suggested that annual screening begin at 45, and

WHEREAS, in an attempt to increase prostate cancer awareness and screening among African Americans, the American Cancer Society sponsors Men's Health Summits in at least 16 major metropolitan areas throughout the state, and its Man-to-Man Program is designed to promote awareness, education, and support among the entire male population, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Florida:

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That the House of Representatives designates September 2004 as "Prostate Cancer Awareness Month" in Florida and urges all men to become more knowledgeable of the risks associated with the occurrence of the disease, to take preventive steps to minimize those risks, and to consult with their health care professionals regarding annual screening and adherence to American Cancer Society recommended guidelines.