By Senators Wilson, Hill, Lawson, Miller, Siplin, Dawson, Diaz de la Portilla, Villalobos, Bullard and Garcia

33-6A-05 1 Senate Resolution No. 2 A resolution recognizing the week of April 17-23, 2005, as "Minority Cancer Awareness 3 4 Week" in the State of Florida. 5 6 WHEREAS, there has been recent progress in the fight 7 against cancer, yet many Floridians still suffer unequal rates 8 of cancer incidence and mortality, and medically underserved 9 populations have inadequate access to quality cancer prevention, screening, treatment, and rehabilitation services, 10 11 and 12 WHEREAS, certain populations of Floridians, such as African-Americans, Hispanics, Latinos, and the medically 13 uninsured, experience higher rates of cancer incidence and 14 15 death, and WHEREAS, even when poverty levels are accounted for, 16 17 African-Americans, American Indians, Asian Americans, and 18 Pacific Islanders have lower 5-year-cancer-survival rates than whites who are not of Hispanic descent, and 19 WHEREAS, among all racial and ethnic groups, 20 21 African-Americans are the largest minority group in the state 22 and suffer the highest death rate from all cancers and the 23 highest death rate from lung, bronchial, colorectal, female breast, prostate, and uterine cancers, and 2.4 25 WHEREAS, Hispanics and Latinos are the fastest-growing segment of the nation's population, and are expected to become 26 27 the largest minority population in Florida, and 2.8 WHEREAS, almost 35 percent of the Hispanic and Latino 29 population has no health care coverage and almost 31 percent have no access to regular medical care, making Hispanics and 30 31

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1 Latinos the most medically underserved population among all 2 racial and ethnic groups, and 3 WHEREAS, 18.7 percent of adult Floridians have no 4 health care coverage and frequently lack access to quality health care, including potentially lifesaving services to 5 6 screen for, detect, and treat cancer, and 7 WHEREAS, minority cancer awareness initiatives, such as 8 those promoted by the American Cancer Society and Florida's recognition of the nationally observed Minority Cancer 9 10 Awareness Week, will encourage efforts to reduce ethnic, racial, and socioeconomic cancer disparities, NOW, THEREFORE, 11 12 13 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida: 14 15 That the Florida Senate recognizes the week of April 17-23, 2005, the third week of the month, as "Minority Cancer 16 17 Awareness Week" in the State of Florida and urges all Floridians to work with cancer education providers, such as 18 the American Cancer Society, to increase awareness of the 19 disparities that minority populations face in the fight 20 21 against cancer. 22 23 2.4 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

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