

HR 9093

2005

1 House Resolution

2 A resolution recognizing April 17-23, 2005, as "Minority
3 Cancer Awareness Week" in Florida.

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5 WHEREAS, although there has been much recent progress in
6 the fight against cancer, many Floridians still suffer unequal
7 rates of cancer incidence and mortality, and medically
8 underserved populations have insufficient knowledge of cancer
9 prevention and inadequate access to screening, treatment, and
10 rehabilitation services in Florida, and

11 WHEREAS, certain populations within the state, such as
12 African Americans, Hispanics, Latinos, and the medically
13 uninsured, experience higher rates of cancer incidence and
14 death, and, even when poverty levels are accounted for, African
15 Americans, American Indians, Asian Americans, and Pacific
16 Islanders have lower 5-year cancer survival rates than do non-
17 Hispanic whites, and

18 WHEREAS, among all racial and ethnic groups, African
19 Americans are the largest minority group in the state and have
20 the highest death rate from all cancers in general and from lung
21 and bronchial, colorectal, prostate, uterine, and female breast
22 cancers in particular, and

23 WHEREAS, Hispanics and Latinos are the fastest-growing
24 population in the nation and are expected to become the largest
25 minority-identified population in Florida, yet almost 35 percent
26 are reported to have no health care coverage and almost 31
27 percent have no access to regular medical care, making them the
28 most medically underserved of all racial and ethnic groups, and

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29 WHEREAS, 18.7 percent of Florida's adults have no form of
30 health care coverage, a circumstance frequently associated with
31 a lack of access to quality health care, including potentially
32 life-saving cancer screening, detection, and treatment, and

33 WHEREAS, minority cancer awareness initiatives, such as
34 those promoted by the American Cancer Society and Florida's
35 recognition of the nationally observed Minority Cancer Awareness
36 Week, are means of promoting efforts to reduce ethnic, racial,
37 and socio-economic cancer disparities, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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42 That the House of Representatives recognizes April 17-23,
43 2005, as "Minority Cancer Awareness Week" in Florida and urges
44 all to work toward an increased awareness of the disparities
45 among minority populations in the fight against cancer.