HR 9131 2008

House Resolution

A resolution recognizing the month of September 2008 as "Prostate Cancer Awareness Month" in Florida.

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WHEREAS, prostate cancer is the most common type of cancer diagnosed among men in Florida, and the state has the second highest number of prostate cancer deaths and the third highest number of prostate cancer cases in the United States, and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society estimates that during the year 2008 more than 11,380 new cases of prostate cancer will be diagnosed among Florida men, and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society also anticipates there will be more than 2,520 deaths in Florida this year due to prostate cancer, and

WHEREAS, African-American and black men have the highest rate of prostate cancer death in the world and a mortality rate for the disease that is twice that of Caucasian men, and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society recommends that annual prostate cancer testing begin at age 50 except for high-risk men, such as African-Americans and men with a family history of the disease, who are urged to begin annual screening at age 45, and

WHEREAS, the five-year survival rate for prostate cancer patients is nearly 100 percent if the disease is diagnosed at the local and regional stages, otherwise known as the early stages, and

WHEREAS, each year, the American Cancer Society supports African-American Men's Health Summits in at least 16 major

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metropolitan areas across the state in an attempt to increase prostate cancer awareness, education, and support and to encourage prostate screening among African-American men in Florida, and

WHEREAS, the Man-to-Man program of the American Cancer Society attempts to increase prostate cancer awareness, education, and support during the month of September, in particular, but throughout the rest of the year as well, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

That the House of Representatives recognizes the month of September 2008 as "Prostate Cancer Awareness Month" in Florida and urges all men to avail themselves of a better understanding of the risks associated with prostate cancer, to take preventive measures to minimize those risks, and to talk with their doctors about annual prostate cancer screening as recommended by the American Cancer Society prostate cancer screening guidelines.