

By Senator Berman

31-03025-22

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing March 2022 as "Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Awareness Month" and March 3, 2022, as "Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Awareness Day" in Florida.

WHEREAS, breast cancer is among the most commonly diagnosed cancers and is the second leading cause of cancer deaths among women in the United States, and

WHEREAS, some 281,550 women were diagnosed with breast cancer in 2021 and nearly 43,600 were expected to die from this malignancy, and

WHEREAS, triple-negative breast cancer (TNBC) is one of many forms of breast cancer and accounts for between 15 and 30 percent of all diagnosed invasive breast cancer cases nationwide, and

WHEREAS, of the new breast cancer cases diagnosed in the United States in 2019, more than 53,700 were TNBC, with higher prevalence among younger women; black and Hispanic women; women with type 2 diabetes or carrying excess weight in the abdominal area; and those with BRCA1 mutations, and

WHEREAS, due to its aggressive behavior, TNBC grows quickly and is more likely to have spread by the time it is found and to recur after treatment than other types of breast cancer, and

WHEREAS, people diagnosed with metastatic TNBC have less than a 30 percent chance of surviving 5 years after diagnosis, and

WHEREAS, TNBC cells do not contain and are considered negative for the three key receptors that medicines typically

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30 target in other types of breast cancers and, therefore, limited
31 treatment options are available to treat this cancer, and

32 WHEREAS, while patients with an early diagnosis can often
33 be treated with chemotherapy, radiation, and surgery, the
34 limited availability of therapies that specifically address the
35 management of TNBC has made treating this disease a challenge
36 for clinicians, and

37 WHEREAS, recent innovations in targeted therapies have
38 fueled advances in the fight against TNBC, and

39 WHEREAS, studies have shown that TNBC-disease-specific
40 mortality rates are often higher if patients are enrolled in
41 Medicaid or Medicare or have a lower socioeconomic status and
42 that black women are 48 percent less likely than non-Hispanic
43 white women to receive guideline-adherent care and have
44 approximately a twofold higher mortality incidence, resulting in
45 a disproportionately higher risk of death from TNBC, and

46 WHEREAS, advances in breast cancer screening and treatment
47 over the last few decades have reduced the overall breast cancer
48 mortality rate, yet the disproportionate impact of TNBC on
49 racial and ethnic minority communities raises considerations of
50 the underlying determinants driving the disparities, and

51 WHEREAS, it is necessary to promote TNBC education, to
52 raise awareness about the disease-related disparities, and to
53 tackle inequities within the health care delivery system, such
54 as inadequate access to screening, diagnostic testing, and care,
55 to improve early detection and survival, NOW, THEREFORE,

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57 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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59 That March 2022 is recognized as "Triple-Negative Breast
60 Cancer Awareness Month" and March 3, 2022, is recognized as
61 "Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Awareness Day" in Florida.