

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 117

BY GASKILL and BEALL

A Resolution to designate the month of June 2006 as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month and to encourage all health benefit plan providers to include annual screening for prostate cancer as part of their coverage.

WHEREAS, over 200,000 men in the United States will be diagnosed with prostate cancer each year; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of screening for cancer is to detect the cancer at its earliest stages, before any symptoms have developed; and

WHEREAS, screening for prostate cancer can be performed quickly and easily in a physician's office using two tests: the prostate specific antigen blood test and the digital rectal examination; and

WHEREAS, when caught and treated early, prostate cancer has a cure rate of over 90 percent; and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society recommends that both the test and the examination should be offered annually, and depending on individual circumstances this testing should begin as early as 40 years of age for certain high-risk men; NOW THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, That the Senate designates the month of June 2006 as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month and encourages all health benefit plan providers to include annual screening for prostate cancer for men over 40 years of age as part of their coverage package, in accordance with the early detection guidelines of the National Comprehensive Cancer Network.

RULES & ADMINISTRATION

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