

1 HJR146
2 117044-1
3 By Representatives McClurkin, Clouse, Drake, DeMarco, Allen,
4 Moore (P), Ward, Davis, Todd, Canfield, Treadaway, McDaniel,
5 McAdory, Hilliard, Gaston, Love, Beech, Curtis, Robinson (J),
6 Millican, Grantland, Gordon and Ison
7 RFD: Rules
8 First Read: 26-JAN-10

RECOGNIZING CERVICAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH.

WHEREAS, cervical cancer is a serious public health problem facing women in the United States, and 1 in 145 women in the United States will be diagnosed with cervical cancer during their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society predicts 11,270 U.S. and 190 Alabama women will develop cervical cancer, and 4,070 women will die of cervical cancer during 2010; and

WHEREAS, cervical cancer takes a tremendous health, emotional, and financial toll on the women of Alabama, and according to the National Cancer Institute, an average of 211 Alabama women were diagnosed with cervical cancer and 78 died each year between 2002 and 2006, the latest reporting years; and

WHEREAS, an estimated \$2 billion is spent each year on treatment of cervical cancer in the United States and more than an estimated \$5 billion in direct and indirect costs are incurred in the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of cervical cancer in the United States each year; and

1 WHEREAS, factors associated with poverty and race
2 contribute to substantial differences in cervical cancer
3 incidence and mortality; Hispanic and African-American women
4 are less likely to be screened for cervical cancer and are
5 more likely to be diagnosed with later stage cancers that are
6 less likely to respond to treatment; and

7 WHEREAS, African-American women are 30 percent more
8 likely to develop cervical cancer than white women and are
9 more than twice as likely to die of the disease, and Hispanic
10 women are about twice as likely to develop cervical cancer as
11 non-Hispanic white women and are about 50 percent more likely
12 to die of cervical cancer than white women; and

13 WHEREAS, pre-cancerous lesions and cervical cancer
14 can be prevented with vaccines, detected with screening, and
15 treated successfully with early detection; and

16 WHEREAS, cervical cancer can be eliminated in our
17 lifetime through innovative collaborations and partnerships
18 between state and local health departments, medical providers,
19 school systems, women's health advocates, and the private
20 business sector; now therefore,

21 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
22 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That, in an effort to reduce the
23 occurrence of cervical cancer in Alabama, we urge the Alabama
24 Department of Public Health to provide for free cervical
25 cancer education, screening, and vaccination of women, and
26 hereby declare January as Cervical Cancer Awareness Month.