

1 SJR37
2 210567-1
3 By Senators Singleton, Albritton, Allen, Barfoot, Beasley,
4 Butler, Chambliss, Chesteen, Coleman-Madison, Dunn, Elliott,
5 Figures, Givhan, Gudger, Holley, Jones, Livingston, Marsh,
6 McClendon, Melson, Orr, Price, Reed, Roberts, Sanders-Fortier,
7 Scofield, Sessions, Shelnutt, Smitherman, Stutts, Waggoner,
8 Whatley and Williams
9 RFD:
10 First Read: 23-FEB-21

8 PROCLAIMING SEPTEMBER 2021 AS PROSTATE CANCER
9 AWARENESS MONTH.

10
11 WHEREAS, one in nine men will be diagnosed with
12 prostate cancer during his lifetime; and

13 WHEREAS, prostate cancer is the second leading cause
14 of cancer death among American men and is the most commonly
15 diagnosed; and

16 WHEREAS, in 2021, there are expected to be about
17 164,690 new cases of prostate cancer and about 29,430 deaths
18 from prostate cancer; in Alabama, it is estimated that 4,020
19 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2021; and

20 WHEREAS, prostate cancer affects all races and
21 socioeconomic classes; however, African American men are at an
22 increased risk for developing prostate cancer compared to
23 white men and other men of color; one in six African American
24 men will develop prostate cancer in his lifetime; and

25 WHEREAS, overall, African American men are 1.7 times
26 more likely to be diagnosed with, and 2.3 times more likely to
27 die from, prostate cancer than white men; African American men

1 are also slightly more likely than white men to be diagnosed
2 with advanced stages of the disease; and

3 WHEREAS, finding prostate cancer when it is still at
4 an early stage offers the best hope for effective treatment
5 and living cancer free; and

6 WHEREAS, if the disease progresses to metastatic
7 castration-resistant prostate cancer (CRPC), the prognosis is
8 poor with median survival of about three years; and

9 WHEREAS, the patient, family, health, and economic
10 burdens of prostate cancer, particularly of advanced stage
11 cancer, are large; and

12 WHEREAS, improved awareness of prostate cancer,
13 understanding of increased risks for developing it, as well as
14 access to recent medical advances that may extend the time a
15 patient lives without his cancer spreading are important to
16 improve patient outcomes; and

17 WHEREAS, shared decision making between the patient,
18 his family and other caregivers, and a physician is important
19 to support the appropriate care for an individual's clinical
20 situation; and

21 WHEREAS, patients should consult their physicians
22 regarding individual risk to developing prostate cancer, as
23 well as when screening and related tests for early detection
24 of prostate cancer are indicated, to understand the risks and
25 possible benefits of screening; and

26 WHEREAS, individuals diagnosed with prostate cancer
27 can speak with their physicians and other health care

1 providers to learn more about the disease and find support
2 groups and services in their community or online; and

3 WHEREAS, additional focus is needed on the personal
4 and social burdens of prostate cancer to anticipate the needs
5 and to provide support to the patient and his family and other
6 caregivers; and

7 WHEREAS, there is still more research to be done for
8 prostate cancer so that new and more effective treatments can
9 be developed; Alabama will continue to push for critical
10 research and advanced treatments for prostate cancer; now
11 therefore,

12 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
13 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we designate September 2021 as
14 Prostate Cancer Awareness Month; we ask the citizens of
15 Alabama to become informed and aware of prostate cancer so
16 that they can have an informed conversation with their health
17 care providers regarding screening and diagnostic methods,
18 and, if necessary, treatments to improve health outcomes and
19 psychosocial support for people affected by prostate cancer.