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3 By Senator Marsh  
4 RFD:  
5 First Read: 08-MAR-22

DECLARING THE MONTH OF MARCH 2022 AS TRIPLE NEGATIVE  
BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH.

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

WHEREAS, approximately 281,550 women will be  
diagnosed with breast cancer, and nearly 43,600 will die with  
this malignancy in 2022; and

WHEREAS, Triple Negative Breast Cancer is one of  
many forms of breast cancer and accounts for about 15-30  
percent of all diagnosed invasive breast cancer cases in the  
United States; and

WHEREAS, of the new breast cancer cases diagnosed in  
2019 in the United States, more than 53,700 were Triple  
Negative Breast Cancer with highest prevalence among younger  
women, Black and Hispanic women, women with type 2 diabetes or  
carrying excess weight in the abdomen area, and those with  
BRCA1 mutations; and

1           WHEREAS, due to its aggressive behavior, Triple  
2       Negative Breast Cancer grows quickly, is more likely to have  
3       spread at the time it is found, and is more likely to come  
4       back after treatment than other types of breast cancer; and

5           WHEREAS, people diagnosed with metastatic Triple  
6       Negative Breast Cancer have a less than 30 percent chance of  
7       surviving more than five years; and

8           WHEREAS, Triple Negative Breast Cancer cells do not  
9       contain and are considered negative for the three key  
10      receptors that medicines typically target in other types of  
11      breast cancers; therefore, there are limited treatment options  
12      that can be used to treat the cancer; and

13          WHEREAS, patients with an early diagnosis can often  
14      be treated with chemotherapy, radiation, and surgery; however,  
15      the limited therapies available specifically addressing the  
16      management of Triple Negative Breast Cancer has made treating  
17      this disease a challenge for clinicians; and

18          WHEREAS, recent innovation in targeted therapies has  
19      fueled advances in the fight against Triple Negative Breast  
20      Cancer; and

21          WHEREAS, studies have shown that Triple Negative  
22      Breast Cancer disease-specific mortality rates are often  
23      higher if patients have Medicaid or Medicare or are lower  
24      socio-economic status, and compared with non-Hispanic women,  
25      Black women are 48 percent less likely to receive guideline  
26      adherent care and have an approximate two-fold higher

1 mortality incidence, resulting in a disproportionately higher  
2 risk of death from Triple Negative Breast Cancer; and

3 WHEREAS, advances in breast cancer screening and  
4 treatment over the last few decades have reduced the overall  
5 breast cancer mortality rate, yet the disproportionate impact  
6 of Triple Negative Breast Cancer on racial and minority  
7 communities raises considerations of the underlying  
8 determinants driving the disparities; and

9 WHEREAS, it is necessary to promote Triple Negative  
10 Breast Cancer education to raise awareness about the  
11 disease-related disparities and to tackle inequities within  
12 the health care delivery, such as inadequate access to  
13 screening, diagnostic testing, and care, and to improve early  
14 detection and survival; now therefore,

15 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE LEGISLATURE OF  
16 ALABAMA, That we declare the month of March 2022 as Triple  
17 Negative Breast Cancer Awareness Month in the State of  
18 Alabama.