

HJR127 ENROLLED



1 1XCO3L-2
2 By Representative Hall
3 RFD: RULES
4 First Read: 25-Apr-23
5 2023 Regular Session



1 Enrolled, An Act,

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4 URGING THE STATE BOARD OF HEALTH TO INCREASE THE
5 AWARENESS OF TRIPLE NEGATIVE BREAST CANCER AND TO EXPAND
6 ACCESS TO SCREENING AND TREATMENT.

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

10 WHEREAS, approximately 300,000 women will be
11 diagnosed with breast cancer, and nearly 43,600 will die
12 with this malignancy in 2023; and

13 WHEREAS, Triple Negative Breast Cancer is one of many
14 forms of breast cancer and accounts for between 15 to 20
15 percent of all diagnosed invasive breast cancer cases in the
16 United States; and

17 WHEREAS, of the new breast cancer cases diagnosed in
18 2019 in the United States, more than 53,700 were Triple
19 Negative Breast Cancer with highest prevalence among younger
20 women, Black and Hispanic women, women with type 2 diabetes
21 or carrying excess weight in the abdomen area, and those
22 with BRCA1 mutations; and

23 WHEREAS, due to its aggressive behavior, Triple
24 Negative Breast Cancer grows quickly, is more likely to have
25 spread at the time it is found, and is more likely to come



26 back after treatment than other types of breast cancer; and

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

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

35 WHEREAS, patients with an early diagnosis can often
36 be treated with chemotherapy, radiation, and surgery;
37 however, the limited therapies available specifically
38 addressing the management of Triple Negative Breast Cancer
39 have made treating this disease a challenge for clinicians;
40 and

41 WHEREAS, recent innovation in targeted therapies has
42 fueled advances in the fight against Triple Negative Breast
43 Cancer; and

44 WHEREAS, studies have shown that Triple Negative
45 Breast Cancer disease-specific mortality rates are often
46 higher if patients have Medicaid or Medicare or are lower
47 socio-economic status, and compared with non-Hispanic women,
48 Black women are 48 percent less likely to receive guideline
49 adherent care and have an approximate two-fold higher
50 mortality incidence, resulting in a disproportionately



51 higher risk of death from Triple Negative Breast Cancer; and
52 WHEREAS, advances in breast cancer screening and
53 treatment over the last few decades have reduced the overall
54 breast cancer mortality rate, yet the disproportionate
55 impact of Triple Negative Breast Cancer on racial and
56 minority communities underscores the need for awareness,
57 early screening, and prompt treatment, particularly for
58 these at-risk communities; and

59 WHEREAS, it is necessary to promote Triple Negative
60 Breast Cancer education to raise awareness about the
61 disease-related disparities and to tackle inequities within
62 the health care delivery, such as inadequate access to
63 screening, diagnostic testing, and care, and to improve
64 early detection and survival; now therefore,

65 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF ALABAMA, BOTH
66 HOUSES THEREOF CONCURRING, That we urge the State Board of
67 Health to take steps to increase awareness of the dangers of
68 Triple Negative Breast Cancer and the need for early
69 detection and to take steps to improve access to screening,
70 diagnostic testing, and medical care and treatment.

71 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this
72 resolution be delivered to Dr. Scott Harris, the State
73 Health Officer, and to the State Board of Health.

