



SR0201

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1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, In 2019, the American Cancer Society estimates
3 that more than 600,000 people will lose their lives to cancer
4 in the United States; and

5 WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society estimates that 24,410
6 people in Illinois will die from cancer in 2019; and

7 WHEREAS, The National Cancer Institute estimates that from
8 18,000 to 210,000 deaths in the United States could be avoided
9 with prevention and early detection; and

10 WHEREAS, The cancer death rate dropped 25 percent between
11 1991 and 2014 because of reductions in smoking and advances in
12 early detection and treatment; and

13 WHEREAS, Specifically, according to the American Cancer
14 Society, the five-year relative survival rate for cancers found
15 at the local stage are about 55 percent of lung cancers, 90
16 percent of colon and rectum cancers, 91 percent of cervical
17 cancers, 99 percent of breast, and 98 percent for melanoma of
18 the skin cancers; and

19 WHEREAS, Many of these cancers are often preventable, and
20 early detection and treatment are critical as cancer does not

1 always cause symptoms and may occur in people with no family
2 history; and

3 WHEREAS, Specific cancer types disproportionately affect
4 different populations; for example, breast cancer is the most
5 common form of cancer among Black women, prostate cancer rates
6 in Black men are double those of other men, and the likelihood
7 of developing colorectal cancer for Alaska Natives is about
8 double that of other Americans; cervical cancer is more
9 prevalent among Hispanic and African-American women; two out of
10 three people diagnosed with lung cancer are 65 or older;
11 melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancers is among the most
12 common cancers in young adults; and

13 WHEREAS, According to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control
14 and Prevention, rates of screening for many cancer types in
15 recommended populations remain substantially below Healthy
16 People 2020 targets; and

17 WHEREAS, It is critical to reinforce the need for people to
18 discuss their individual risk factors for cancer with their
19 healthcare providers and understand the recommendations for,
20 and benefits of, cancer screening; and

21 WHEREAS, For those individuals who are found through
22 screening to have cancer, they are presented with clear and

1 complete options for further diagnostic or molecular testing
2 and treatment by their healthcare providers; therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
4 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that all citizens of
5 Illinois are encouraged to visit cancerscreenweek.org for
6 cancer screening resources and talk to their healthcare
7 providers about their risk factors for all cancer types
8 including, but not limited to, breast, cervical, colon, lung,
9 prostate, and skin cancers, as well as recommended screening
10 options; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That we declare the first week of December 2019
12 as "Cancer Screen Week" in the State of Illinois; and be it
13 further

14 RESOLVED, That the Illinois General Assembly is urged to
15 take actions to evaluate current levels of funding for cancer
16 screening in state medical assistance, public health, or
17 standalone programs to ensure adequate funding is available for
18 cancer screening and/or treatment services; and be it further

19 RESOLVED, That the Illinois General Assembly is urged to
20 identify and advance policies to increase rates of cancer
21 screening and improve cancer screening awareness.