

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. _____

Expressing support for the designation of the month of May 2018 as
“National Bladder Cancer Awareness Month”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. MENENDEZ (for himself and Mr. ISAKSON) submitted the following
resolution; which was referred to the Committee on _____

RESOLUTION

Expressing support for the designation of the month of May
2018 as “National Bladder Cancer Awareness Month”.

Whereas more than 700,000 people in the United States live
with bladder cancer;

Whereas more than 81,000 people are expected to be diag-
nosed with bladder cancer and more than 17,000 will die
due to the disease in 2018 alone;

Whereas bladder cancer affects people of all ages and back-
grounds and is among the top 10 cancers with the high-
est incidence rates in the United States;

Whereas bladder cancer is known as one of the most expen-
sive cancers to treat on a per patient basis, with a recur-
rence rate of approximately 50 to 80 percent, requiring
lifelong surveillance;

Whereas bladder cancer symptoms, such as blood in the urine, are easily recognized, however, many are unaware of the threat of bladder cancer, often prolonging the time to diagnosis;

Whereas, if diagnosed early, bladder cancer is treatable;

Whereas military veterans are twice as likely as nonveterans to be diagnosed with bladder cancer;

Whereas women are often diagnosed at a later stage in the development of bladder cancer, and when diagnosed at the same stage as men, women have a worse prognosis;

Whereas, if diagnosis and treatment are delayed, the life expectancy of an individual with bladder cancer decreases;

Whereas the quality of life of a person with bladder cancer will depend on future treatment and diagnosis developments, which will rely on research advancements;

Whereas research advancements for bladder cancer are limited by a lack of awareness about the disease within the medical community and the general public;

Whereas increased awareness of bladder cancer will promote early diagnosis and increase the chances of survival;

Whereas increased awareness of bladder cancer will bolster public support of the disease and thus increase funding for innovative research and the development of new treatment options and diagnostic tools;

Whereas, traditionally, on the first Saturday in May each year, survivors, caregivers, and loved ones walk together throughout the United States to raise awareness of bladder cancer;

Whereas the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network and its community of patients, caregivers, and specialists seek—

- (1) to foster a community of hope and support;
- (2) to fund and conduct research for innovative treatments and diagnostic tools; and
- (3) to increase public awareness and understanding of bladder cancer; and

Whereas May would be an appropriate month to designate as “National Bladder Cancer Awareness Month”: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) supports the designation of May 2018 as
3 “National Bladder Cancer Awareness Month”;

4 (2) supports the goals and ideals of National
5 Bladder Cancer Awareness Month; and

6 (3) calls on the people of the United States, in-
7 terested groups, and affected persons—

8 (A) to promote awareness of bladder can-
9 cer and to foster understanding of the impact
10 of the disease on patients and their families and
11 caregivers;

12 (B) to take an active role in the fight to
13 end bladder cancer; and

14 (C) to observe National Bladder Cancer
15 Awareness Month with appropriate ceremonies
16 and activities.