



SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 17-040

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 also REPRESENTATIVE(S) Michaelson Jenet and Sias, Buckner, Arndt, Becker J., Becker K., Beckman, Benavidez, Bridges, Buck, Carver, Catlin, Coleman, Covarrubias, Danielson, Esgar, Everett, Exum, Foote, Garnett, Ginal, Gray, Hamner, Hansen, Herod, Hooton, Humphrey, Jackson, Kennedy, Kraft-Tharp, Landgraf, Lawrence, Lebsock, Lee, Leonard, Lewis, Liston, Lontine, Lundeen, McKean, McLachlan, Melton, Mitsch Bush, Navarro, Neville P., Nordberg, Pabon, Pettersen, Rankin, Ransom, Rosenthal, Saine, Salazar, Singer, Thurlow, Valdez, Van Winkle, Weissman, Willett, Williams D., Wilson, Winter, Wist, Young, Duran.

CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF OCTOBER 13, 2017, AS  
 "METASTATIC BREAST CANCER AWARENESS DAY".

WHEREAS, Thousands of families across Colorado are affected by metastatic breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, Much of the discussion about breast cancer focuses on early detection and routine diagnosis, which have seen tremendous progress in the last 30 years; and

WHEREAS, The story for advanced breast cancer is quite different because metastatic breast cancer patients continue to face many unique challenges, such as the emotional and physical demands of continual treatment and high mortality; and

WHEREAS, This devastating stage of breast cancer occurs when cancer spreads beyond the breast to other parts of the body, including the bones, lungs, liver, and brain; and

WHEREAS, Currently no cure exists for metastatic breast cancer, and those with metastatic breast cancer will continue treatment indefinitely with the goal of extending life of the best quality possible; and

WHEREAS, More than one in 8 women in the United States will be affected by invasive breast cancer in their lifetimes, and, specifically in Colorado, it is expected that 3,840 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in 2017; and

WHEREAS, Breast cancer can spread quickly and inexplicably, regardless of the treatment or preventive measures taken; and

WHEREAS, The Metastatic Breast Cancer Network estimates that 6-10% of newly diagnosed breast cancer cases are diagnosed as metastatic disease, and it is estimated that 20-30% of early-stage breast cancer cases will become metastatic or recurrent advanced cases; and

WHEREAS, This devastating disease affects all races and socioeconomic classes; and

WHEREAS, Although white women see the greatest incidence of breast cancer, the mortality rate for African-American women with breast cancer is higher than for white women, and breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer-related deaths for Hispanic women; and

WHEREAS, Any discussions of breast cancer should include the spectrum from screening through metastatic breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, The physical, psychological, social, and economic burdens of metastatic breast cancer on patients, their families, caregivers, and communities are large; and

WHEREAS, Metastatic breast cancer cuts short the lives of too many people in Colorado, leaving a lasting effect on their families; and

WHEREAS, While there have been treatment advances in metastatic breast cancer, many of those advances have benefitted a small subset of patients with specific types of metastatic breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, While metastatic breast cancer remains incurable, there is reason to be hopeful as extensive research efforts are underway to address this high unmet need; and

WHEREAS, Clinicaltrials.gov and breastcancertrials.org are searchable databases that provide the public with information about current ongoing clinical research studies; and

WHEREAS, Additional focus is needed on the personal, economic, and social burdens of metastatic breast cancer, the needs of the patient, and promising research efforts in the development of more effective treatments; and

WHEREAS, There is still more research to be done for metastatic breast cancer so that new and more effective treatments can be developed; and

WHEREAS, Colorado will continue to push for crucial research and advanced treatments for metastatic breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, Individuals diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer can speak with their physicians to learn more about the disease, find support groups and services in their communities and online, and learn about how to participate in metastatic breast cancer research trials; now, therefore,

*Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-first General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:*

(1) That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly, are honored to designate, observe, and proclaim October 13, 2017, to be "Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day";

(2) That we wish to shed light on the devastation metastatic breast cancer brings to communities throughout Colorado;

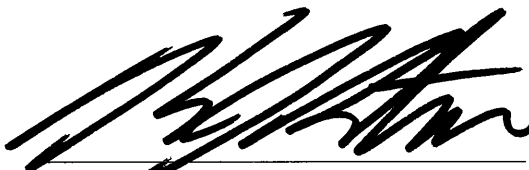
(3) That we encourage primary care providers, oncology nurse navigators, and social workers to develop an enhanced understanding of health care options to manage and prevent symptoms and side effects related to the disease, improve the quality of life for Coloradans living with metastatic breast cancer, and encourage patients to participate in

ongoing metastatic breast cancer trials;

(4) That we encourage Colorado medical research institutions and researchers to increase resources allocated toward understanding how to prevent metastatic breast cancer and toward expanding treatment options for metastatic disease; and

(5) That we ask the citizens of Colorado to become informed and aware of metastatic breast cancer.

*Be It Further Resolved,* That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to: Colorado's Congressional Delegation, Colorado Consumer Health Network, Colorado Center on Law and Policy, Colorado Association of Family Physicians, Colorado Rural Health Center, High Plains Oncology Professionals, Metro Denver Oncology Nursing Society, Pikes Peak Oncology Nursing Society, Rocky Mountain Oncology Society, University of Colorado Cancer Center, Colorado Cancer Research Program, Susan G. Komen Colorado, Susan G. Komen Colorado South, and the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network.



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