



National Lieutenant Governors Association

1 **RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF CANCER SCREEN WEEK**

2 *A resolution to designate the first week of December 2018 as Cancer Screen Week, identify the*
3 *burden of cancer in the U.S. and to urge citizens to talk with their healthcare providers about*
4 *appropriate screenings for prevention and early detection of cancer.*

5 **WHEREAS**, in 2017, the American Cancer Society estimates more than 600,000 people will lose their
6 lives to cancer in the United States [i]; and

7 **WHEREAS**, the National Cancer Institute estimates up to 210,000 deaths in United States could be
8 avoided with early and appropriate cancer screening [ii]; and

9 **WHEREAS**, the cancer death rate dropped 25 percent between 1991 and 2014 because of reductions
10 in smoking and advances in early detection and treatment [iii]; and

11 **WHEREAS**, specifically, according to the American Cancer Society, the five-year relative survival rate
12 for cancers found at the local stage are approximately: 55 percent of lung cancers [iv]; 90 percent of
13 colon and rectum cancers [v]; 91 percent of cervical cancers [vi]; and 99 percent of breast [vii] and
14 98 percent for melanoma of the skin [viii] cancers; and

15 **WHEREAS**, many of these cancers are often preventable, and early detection and treatment are
16 critical as cancer does not always cause symptoms, and many occur in people with no family history;
17 and

18 **WHEREAS**, specific cancer types disproportionately affect different populations, for example:
19 breast cancer is the most common form of cancer among Black women [ix]; prostate cancer rates in
20 Black men are double those of other men[x]; and the likelihood of developing colorectal cancer for
21 Alaska Natives is about double that of other Americans [xi]; cervical cancer is more prevalent among
22 Hispanic and African-American women [xi]; two out of three people diagnosed with lung cancer are
23 65 or older [xiii]; and melanoma, the deadliest form of skin cancer, is among the most common
24 cancers in young adults [xiv]; and

25 **WHEREAS**, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, rates of screening for
26 many cancer types in recommended populations remain substantially below Healthy People 2020
27 targets [xv]; and

28 **WHEREAS**, it is critical to reinforce the need for people to discuss their individual risk factors for
29 cancer with their healthcare providers and understand the recommendations for, and benefits of,
30 cancer screening.



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- 31 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that all citizens of the U.S. are encouraged to visit
32 CancerScreenWeek.org for cancer screening resources and to talk to their healthcare providers
33 about their risk factors for all cancer types including, but not limited to, breast, cervical, colon, lung,
34 prostate, and skin cancers and recommended screening options.
- 35 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) recognizes
36 the first week of December in 2018 and annually thereafter be known as Cancer Screen Week.
- 37 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the NLGA encourages states to identify and advance policies to
38 increase rates of cancer screening and improve cancer screening awareness.

[i] American Cancer Society, <https://www.cancer.org/research/cancer-facts-statistics/all-cancer-facts-figures/cancer-facts-figures-2017.html>

[ii] National Cancer Institute, <https://www.cancer.gov/about-cancer/screening/hp-screening-overview-pdq>

[iii] Siegel RL, Miller KD, Jemal A. Cancer statistics, 2017. *CA: a Cancer Journal for Clinicians* 2017;**67**(1):7-30.

[iv] *ibid.*

[v] *ibid.*

[vi] *ibid.*

[vii] *ibid.*

[viii] *ibid.*

[ix] Black Women's Health Imperative, <http://www.bwhi.org/issues/breast-cancer/breast-cancer/>

[x] Siegel RL, Miller KD, Jemal A. Cancer statistics, 2017. *CA: a Cancer Journal for Clinicians* 2017;**67**(1):7-30.

[xi] Siegel RL, Miller KD, Fedewa SA, Ahnen DJ, Meester RGS, Barzi A, et al. Colorectal cancer statistics, 2017. *Ca: A Cancer Journal for Clinicians*, 2017 Mar 1;doi: **10.3322/caac.21395**:[Epub ahead of print].

[xii] American Cancer Society, <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/cervical-cancer/about/key-statistics.html>

[xiii] American Cancer Society, <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/non-small-cell-lung-cancer/about/key-statistics.html>

[xiv] White A, Thompson TD, White MC, et al. Cancer Screening Test Use — United States, 2015. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep* 2017;**66**:201–206. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6608a1>. Sauer AG, Siegel RL, Jemal A, Fedewa SA. Updated review of prevalence of major risk factors and use of screening test for cancer in the United States. *Cancer Epidemiol Biomarkers Prev* May 17 2017 DOI: 10.1158/1055-9965.EPI-17-0219

[xv] Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, https://www.cdc.gov/cancer/dcpc/research/articles/screening_us.htm

ADOPTED, this day, the 16th of March, 2018.

Sponsors: Lt Governor Mike Cooney (D – Montana), Lt. Governor Rebecca Kleefisch (R – Wisconsin), Lt Governor Matt Michels (R – South Dakota)