



National Lieutenant Governors Association

Resolution Recognizing March As Precision Medicine and Biomarker Testing Awareness Month

- 1 **Resolution Recognizing March As Precision Medicine and Biomarker Testing**
2 **Awareness Month**
- 3 **WHEREAS**, health care providers are increasingly utilizing new technologies, such as biomarker testing,
4 that can help identify gene mutations, alterations, or protein expressions specific to individual patients¹, and
- 5 **WHEREAS**, with biomarker testing, health care providers can direct a patient to targeted treatments, known
6 as precision medicines, which studies have shown to improve patient outcomes and reduce total cost of care
7 to the health care system², and
- 8 **WHEREAS**, the field of precision medicine holds great promise in ensuring the delivery of the right
9 treatment to the right patient and the right time, and
- 10 **WHEREAS**, health outcomes are improved through the use of precision medicine, for example patients with
11 certain types of lung cancer who received recommended biomarker testing had reduced mortality and
12 improved overall survival³ and
- 13 **WHEREAS**, The National Academy of Medicine considers biomarker tests to be “key to unlocking the
14 promise” of precision medicine, and
- 15 **WHEREAS**, biomarker testing is available for an ever-increasing range of conditions and diseases⁴, but
16 patient awareness of and access to these tests is not keeping pace with the rate of innovation, and
- 17 **WHEREAS**, appropriate awareness and education about the ways biomarker testing can be used to support
18 diagnosis, treatment, and monitoring of patients in a personalized way is needed to realize the promise of
19 precision medicines, and
- 20 **WHEREAS**, states and territories can promote awareness, education and action related to improving access
21 to biomarker testing.

¹ Committee on Policy Issues in the Clinical Development and Use of Biomarkers for Molecularly Targeted Therapies; Board on Health Care Services; Institute of Medicine; National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine; Graig LA, Phillips JK, Moses HL, editors. Biomarker Tests for Molecularly Targeted Therapies: Key to Unlocking Precision Medicine. Washington (DC): National Academies Press (US); 2016 Jun 30. 1, Introduction. Available from: <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK379335/>.

² American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network. Improving Access to Biomarker Testing, Advancing Precision Medicine in Cancer Care. Accessed 6 July 2021 <https://www.fightcancer.org/sites/default/files/Improving%20Access%20to%20Biomarker%20Testing.pdf>.

³ John A, Yang B, Madala J, Shah RA. Clinical impact of adherence to NCCN biomarker testing guidelines on survival for patients with non-squamous, advanced non-small-cell lung cancer (aNSCLC). J Natl Compr Canc Netw. 2020;18(3.5):HSR20-088. doi:10.6004/jnccn.2019.7441.

⁴ US Food and Drug Administration. Table of Pharmacogenomic Biomarkers in Drug Labeling. Accessed 6 July 2021 <https://www.fda.gov/drugs/science-and-research-drugs/table-pharmacogenomic-biomarkers-drug-labeling>.



National Lieutenant Governors Association

22 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the National Lieutenant Governors Association recognizes
23 the month of March of each year as “Precision Medicine and Biomarker Testing Awareness Month” to raise
24 awareness, encourage education, and improve understanding of the ways biomarker testing can be used to
25 support diagnosis, treatment, and monitoring of patients in a personalized way and the importance of
26 ensuring access to these advanced diagnostic technologies.

ADOPTED, this day, the 27th of August, 2021.

Sponsors: Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist (D – Michigan), Lt. Governor Adam Gregg (R – Iowa), Lt. Governor Bethany Hall-Long (D – Delaware), Lt. Governor Boyd Rutherford (R – Maryland), Lt. Governor Dianne Primavera (D – Colorado), Lt. Governor Juliana Stratton (D – Illinois)