

1 A RESOLUTION declaring April 2023 as Oral Cancer Awareness Month in  
2 Kentucky.

3 WHEREAS, oral health is a critical component of overall health that has effects on  
4 speech, nutrition, social development, productivity, and quality of life; and

5 WHEREAS, raising awareness about oral health and invasive diseases like oral  
6 cancer is a fundamental concern of oral health professionals across Kentucky; and

7 WHEREAS, oral cancer kills more than 11,000 Americans yearly and is expected  
8 to kill 170 Kentuckians in 2023; and

9 WHEREAS, 54,000 people in the United States will be diagnosed with oral cancer  
10 in 2023, including an estimated 870 people in Kentucky; and

11 WHEREAS, oral cancer affects almost twice as many men as women; and

12 WHEREAS, access to dental care has been proven to be a major factor in early  
13 diagnosis of oral cancer; and

14 WHEREAS, Kentucky has improved access to dental care for children and those  
15 individuals at a greater risk of contracting oral cancer; and

16 WHEREAS, early detection and self-examination also greatly increase the chance  
17 of identifying oral cancer in its early stages; and

18 WHEREAS, this body urges all residents in the Commonwealth of Kentucky to  
19 perform self-examination regularly and to see their dental health professional in order to  
20 cultivate sound oral health; and

21 WHEREAS, this body further recognizes the importance of maintaining sound oral  
22 health habits and directs all residents' attention to the prevalence of oral cancer in their  
23 communities and throughout this Commonwealth;

24 NOW, THEREFORE,

25 ***Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of***  
26 ***Kentucky:***

27 ➔Section 1. The Senate hereby declares April 2023 as Oral Cancer Awareness

- 1 Month in Kentucky.
- 2       ➔Section 2. The Clerk of the Senate is directed to transmit a copy of this
- 3 Resolution to Senator Max Wise.