
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 54 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY PENNYCUICK, HUGHES, MARTIN, PHILLIPS-HILL, BROOKS,
LAUGHLIN, DUSH, DILLON, SCHWANK, COLLETT, CAPPELLETTI, COSTA,
COMITTA, TARTAGLIONE, SANTARSIERO, LANGERHOLC, BARTOLOTTA,
MILLER, MASTRIANO AND K. WARD, MARCH 10, 2023

REFERRED TO RULES AND EXECUTIVE NOMINATIONS, MARCH 10, 2023

A RESOLUTION

1 Designating the month of March 2023 as "Triple-Negative Breast
2 Cancer Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

3 WHEREAS, Breast cancer is among the most commonly diagnosed
4 cancer and the second leading cause of cancer death among women
5 in the United States; and

6 WHEREAS, Approximately 297,790 women will be diagnosed with
7 breast cancer and more than 43,000 will die with this malignancy
8 in 2023; and

9 WHEREAS, Triple-negative breast cancer is one of many forms
10 of breast cancer and accounts for about 15 to 20% of all
11 diagnosed invasive breast cancer cases in the United States; and

12 WHEREAS, More than 53,700 new breast cancer cases in 2019 in
13 the United States were triple-negative breast cancer with higher
14 prevalence among younger women, Black and Hispanic women, women
15 with type 2 diabetes or carrying excess weight in the abdomen
16 area and those with BRCA1 mutations; and

17 WHEREAS, Due to its aggressive behavior, triple-negative

1 breast cancer grows quickly and is more likely to have spread at
2 the time it is found and is more likely to return after
3 treatment than other types of breast cancer; and

4 WHEREAS, People diagnosed with metastatic triple-negative
5 breast cancer have less than a 30% chance of surviving past five
6 years; and

7 WHEREAS, Triple-negative breast cancer cells do not contain,
8 or are "negative for" three key receptors that medicines
9 typically target in other types of breast cancers; and

10 WHEREAS, Patients with an early diagnosis can often be
11 treated with chemotherapy, radiation and surgery; and

12 WHEREAS, The limited therapies available specifically
13 addressing the management of triple-negative breast cancer have
14 made treating this disease a challenge for clinicians; and

15 WHEREAS, Recent innovation in targeted therapies have fueled
16 advances in the fight against triple-negative breast cancer; and

17 WHEREAS, Studies have shown that triple-negative breast
18 cancer disease-specific mortality rates are often higher if
19 patients have Medicaid or Medicare or are a lower socioeconomic
20 status; and

21 WHEREAS, Compared with non-Hispanic White women, Black women
22 are 48% less likely to receive guideline adherent care and have
23 an approximate twofold higher mortality incidence, resulting in
24 a disproportionately higher risk of death from triple-negative
25 breast cancer; and

26 WHEREAS, Advances in breast cancer screening and treatment
27 over the last few decades have reduced the overall breast cancer
28 mortality rate; and

29 WHEREAS, The disproportionate impact of triple-negative
30 breast cancer on racial and ethnic minority communities raises

1 considerations about the underlying determinants driving the
2 disparities; and

3 WHEREAS, It is necessary to promote triple-negative breast
4 cancer education, raise awareness about the disease-related
5 disparities and tackle inequities within the health care
6 delivery such as inadequate access to screening, diagnostic
7 testing and care, to improve early detection and survival;
8 therefore be it

9 RESOLVED, That the Senate designate the month of March 2023
10 as "Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Awareness Month" in
11 Pennsylvania.