

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 191

Recognizing that the occurrence of prostate cancer in African-American men has reached epidemic proportions and urging Federal agencies to address that health crisis by designating funds for education, awareness outreach, and research specifically focused on how prostate cancer affects African-American men.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 18, 2009

Mr. KERRY (for himself, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. BURRIS, Ms. LANDRIEU, and Mrs. BOXER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

RESOLUTION

Recognizing that the occurrence of prostate cancer in African-American men has reached epidemic proportions and urging Federal agencies to address that health crisis by designating funds for education, awareness outreach, and research specifically focused on how prostate cancer affects African-American men.

Whereas the incidence of prostate cancer in African-American men is 60 percent higher than in any other racial or ethnic group in the United States;

Whereas African-American men have the highest mortality rate of any ethnic and racial group in the United States,

dying at a rate that is 140 percent higher than other ethnic and racial groups;

Whereas that rate of mortality represents the largest disparity of mortality rates in any of the major cancers;

Whereas prostate cancer can be cured with early detection and the proper treatment, regardless of the ethnic or racial group of the cancer patient;

Whereas African-Americans are more likely to be diagnosed at an earlier age and at a later stage of cancer progression than all other ethnic and racial groups, thereby leading to lower cure rates and lower chances of survival; and

Whereas according to a paper published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, researchers from the Dana Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School have discovered a variant of a small segment of the human genome that accounts for the higher risk of prostate cancer in African-American men: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) recognizes that prostate cancer has created
3 a health crisis for African-American men; and

4 (2) urges Federal agencies to designate additional funds for—

5 (A) research to address and attempt to end
6 the health crisis created by prostate cancer; and
7

- 1 (B) efforts relating to education, aware-
- 2 ness, and early detection at the grassroots level
- 3 to end that health crisis.

