

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 41

BY SENATOR BARROW

A RESOLUTION

To commend the Elvin Howard, Sr. Pancreatic Cancer Advocacy Foundation on its commitment to fighting pancreatic cancer through raising resources, awareness, and advocating for those diagnosed with this deadly disease.

WHEREAS, the foundation was founded on October 28, 2016, in memory of Elvin Howard Sr., a lifelong resident of Louisiana, who succumbed to pancreatic cancer on September 6, 2008; and

WHEREAS, after his death, Mr. Howard's wife, Bertha, established the foundation to honor her husband by increasing awareness of the disease, supporting research, and providing overall advocacy and support to pancreatic cancer survivors, their families, and caregivers; and

WHEREAS, the vision of the Elvin Howard, Sr. Pancreatic Cancer Advocacy Foundation is that negative social determinants of health will never be an obstacle to the early diagnosis, treatment, and cure of pancreatic cancer; and

WHEREAS, the mission of the Elvin Howard, Sr. Pancreatic Cancer Advocacy Foundation is to reduce pancreatic cancer deaths and family hardships through awareness, advocacy, and support; and

WHEREAS, the values of the Elvin Howard, Sr. Pancreatic Cancer Advocacy Foundation are those of Mr. Howard's: faith, family, generosity, love for others, enjoyment of life, and end of life preparation; and

WHEREAS, pancreatic cancer is the third leading cause of cancer related deaths in the United States and has a five-year survival rate of approximately eight percent; and

WHEREAS, pancreatic cancer is a very aggressive cancer with no specific, cost-effective screening that can easily and reliably find early-stage pancreatic cancer in people who have no symptoms; and

WHEREAS, the cause of most cases is unknown, thereby limiting treatment options;
and

WHEREAS, November is Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month and November 19, 2020, is World Pancreatic Cancer Day throughout the United States and the World; established to bring attention and awareness about the symptoms and risks of the disease, to highlight the urgent need for earlier detection, and make progress to help patients fight and survive this deadly disease; and

WHEREAS, the foundation does play an instrumental and vital role in increasing public awareness and understanding of pancreatic cancer throughout Louisiana.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Elvin Howard, Sr. Pancreatic Cancer Advocacy Foundation on its commitment to ensuring the citizens of Louisiana are informed and aware of the issues specifically associated with pancreatic cancer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Elvin Howard, Sr. Pancreatic Cancer Advocacy Foundation.

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE