

SENATE RESOLUTION 38

By Briggs

A RESOLUTION to commemorate July 2017 as "Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Month" in Tennessee.

WHEREAS, thousands of families across Tennessee are affected by metastatic breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, metastatic breast cancer patients continue to face many unique challenges, such as the emotional and physical demands of continual treatment; and

WHEREAS, currently no cure exists for metastatic breast cancer, and those with metastatic breast cancer will continue treatment indefinitely with the goal of extending the best quality of life possible; and

WHEREAS, more than one in eight women in the United States will be affected by breast cancer in their lifetimes; and

WHEREAS, in 2017, it is estimated that there will be 246,660 new cases of female breast cancer in the U.S., and in the State of Tennessee, there will be an estimated 5,420 new cases of female breast cancer. There will be an estimated 40,450 American women and 900 Tennessee women expected to lose their battle with breast cancer this year; and

WHEREAS, breast cancer can spread quickly and inexplicably, regardless of the treatment or preventative measures taken. When breast cancer spreads, fifty to seventy percent of the time it involves the bones but can involve other parts of the body, including the lungs, liver, and brain; and

WHEREAS, this devastating disease affects all races and socioeconomic classes. Although white women see the greatest incidence of breast cancer, the mortality rate for African-American women with breast cancer is about forty-one percent higher than in white

women, and breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer-related death for Hispanic women;
and

WHEREAS, the patient, family, health, and economic burdens of metastatic breast cancer are large; and

WHEREAS, while there have been treatment advances in metastatic breast cancer, notable disparities still exist in treatment outcomes; and

WHEREAS, ClinicalTrials.gov is a searchable database that provides patients, family members, and the public with information about current ongoing clinical research studies; and

WHEREAS, there is still more research to be done for metastatic breast cancer so that new and more effective treatments can be developed; and

WHEREAS, individuals diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer can speak with their physicians to learn more about the disease and can find support groups and services in their community or online; and

WHEREAS, Tennessee is observing July as Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Month to shed light on the devastation metastatic breast cancer brings to communities statewide; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we join with our fellow citizens who are affected by Metastatic Breast Cancer, their families and caregivers, and healthcare professionals across our State as they commemorate July 2017 as "Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Month" in Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.