

117TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# S. RES. 566

Recognizing the 100th anniversary of the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer and the importance of Commission on Cancer-accredited programs in ensuring comprehensive, high-quality, patient-centered cancer care.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 29, 2022

Mr. VAN HOLLEN (for himself and Mr. MARSHALL) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## RESOLUTION

Recognizing the 100th anniversary of the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer and the importance of Commission on Cancer-accredited programs in ensuring comprehensive, high-quality, patient-centered cancer care.

Whereas the Commission on Cancer was established by the American College of Surgeons in 1922 as a consortium of professional organizations dedicated to improving survival rates and quality of life for cancer patients through standard setting, which promotes cancer prevention, research, education, and monitoring of comprehensive quality care;

Whereas the Commission on Cancer is comprised of individuals and representatives of more than 50 cancer-related organizations;

Whereas the Commission on Cancer establishes standards to ensure quality, multidisciplinary, and comprehensive cancer care delivery in health care settings;

Whereas the Commission on Cancer conducts surveys in health care settings to assess compliance with those standards;

Whereas the Commission on Cancer collects standardized data from Commission on Cancer-accredited health care settings to measure cancer care quality;

Whereas the Commission on Cancer uses data to monitor treatment patterns and outcomes, and enhance cancer control and clinical surveillance activities;

Whereas the Commission on Cancer develops effective educational interventions to improve cancer prevention, early detection, cancer care delivery, and outcomes in health care settings;

Whereas the Commission on Cancer has accredited more than 1,500 cancer programs in the United States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico;

Whereas accreditation from the American College of Surgeons is a voluntary commitment by a cancer program that ensures patients will have access to the full scope of services required to diagnose, treat, rehabilitate, and support patients with cancer and their families;

Whereas accreditation allows cancer programs to continually evaluate performance and take proactive, corrective actions when necessary;

Whereas continuous evaluation reaffirms the commitment of the cancer program to provide high-quality, patient-centered cancer care;

Whereas accreditation is regarded as important in improving oncologic outcomes through compliance with standards that include continuous quality improvement;

Whereas quality standards required for accreditation ensure that patients receive comprehensive care with a multi-disciplinary team approach to coordinate the best available treatment options;

Whereas patients treated by accredited cancer programs receive information about ongoing cancer clinical trials and new treatment options and access to a cancer database that offers lifelong patient follow-up;

Whereas accreditation promotes access to prevention and early detection programs, cancer education, and support services;

Whereas patients treated in accredited cancer programs have access to the full continuum of patient-centered care, including distress screening, patient navigation, and delivery of survivorship care plans that detail treatments received and provide detailed information on future care needs;

Whereas accreditation requires evaluation of the entire scope, organization, and activity of a cancer program by external peer review from specially trained surveyors who evaluate compliance with stringent standards designed to promote high-quality care;

Whereas the quality reporting tools from the over 30,000,000 cases reported to the Commission on Cancer's National Cancer Database provide feedback needed to initiate

quality improvement studies, which ultimately lead to implementation of quality improvements in accredited cancer programs;

Whereas the cancer accreditation programs of the American College of Surgeons use data submitted to such Database to verify and improve quality of care in cancer programs and to further scientific research; and

Whereas the American College of Surgeons accredited cancer programs in the United States and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico care for approximately 70 percent of newly diagnosed cancer patients in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the Senate recognizes the 100th anni-  
 2 versary of the American College of Surgeons Commission  
 3 on Cancer and the importance of Commission on Cancer-  
 4 accredited programs in ensuring comprehensive, high-  
 5 quality, patient-centered cancer care.

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