

By: Wise

H.C.R. No. 205

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, National Minority Cancer Awareness Week, to be held
2 April 20-26, 2003, highlights the special challenges faced by
3 cancer patients who are members of minority and medically
4 underserved population groups; and

5 WHEREAS, Cancer affects the minority population in this
6 country very differently than it does Anglo-Americans;
7 African-American cancer patients are 30 percent more likely to die
8 of cancer than their Anglo counterparts, and among African-American
9 men, both the incidence and death rate from prostate cancer is
10 double that found in Anglo men; Hispanic women face similarly
11 disproportionate cancer rates and are twice as likely to contract
12 cervical cancer as non-Hispanic white women; the incidence of
13 cervical cancer among Vietnamese women is nearly five times as
14 great as that of Anglo-American women; and

15 WHEREAS, Members of medically underserved population groups
16 include people who live in rural areas, people who face physical
17 barriers that prevent them from having access to services, and the
18 poor; it is estimated that the cancer survival rates of poor
19 individuals are 10 percent to 15 percent lower than for other
20 Americans; and

21 WHEREAS, Increased public awareness of cancer helps citizens
22 across the nation to learn about the importance of prevention and
23 early detection, but far more remains to be done; it is in the
24 continuing interest of all Texans to support efforts that promote

1 education, awareness, and understanding of this prevalent disease;
2 now, therefore, be it

3 RESOLVED, That the 78th Legislature of the State of Texas
4 hereby recognize the week of April 20-26, 2003, as Minority Cancer
5 Awareness Week in Texas and encourage citizens of the Lone Star
6 State to take all necessary steps to protect their health.