

2017 Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 209

BY REPRESENTATIVE GARY CARTER

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH: Recognizes September 2017 as Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Month in Louisiana

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To recognize September 2017 as Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Month in Louisiana.

3 WHEREAS, thousands of families across Louisiana are affected by metastatic breast
4 cancer; and

5 WHEREAS, much of the discussion concerning breast cancer focuses on the
6 importance of early detection and routine diagnosis, where tremendous progress has been
7 made in the last thirty years; and

8 WHEREAS, the story for advanced stages of the disease is quite different, with many
9 persons afflicted with advanced metastatic breast cancer struggling with the emotional and
10 physical demands of continual treatment; and

11 WHEREAS, at present, no cure exists for metastatic breast cancer, and those with
12 the disease will continue treatment indefinitely with the goal of extending their lives with
13 the best quality of life possible; and

14 WHEREAS, more than one in eight women in the United States will be affected by
15 invasive breast cancer in their lifetimes, many of whom live in the state of Louisiana; and

16 WHEREAS, breast cancer can spread quickly and inexplicably, regardless of the
17 treatment or preventative measures taken, and it is estimated that thirty percent of early stage
18 breast cancer cases will become metastatic or recurrent advanced cases, which are cases
19 where cancer spreads beyond the breast to other parts of the body, including the bones,
20 lungs, liver, and brain; and

1 WHEREAS, although this devastating disease affects those of all races and
2 socioeconomic classes, the mortality rate for African-American women is higher than for
3 white women, and breast cancer is the leading cause of cancer-related death for Hispanic
4 women; and

5 WHEREAS, while there have been treatment advances for metastatic breast cancer,
6 many of those advances have benefitted a small subset of patients with specific types of
7 metastatic breast cancer; and

8 WHEREAS, while metastatic breast cancer remains incurable, there is reason to be
9 hopeful, as extensive research efforts are underway to address the need for a cure; and

10 WHEREAS, there is still more research to be done on this disease so that new and
11 more effective treatments can be developed; and

12 WHEREAS, additional efforts are needed to highlight the personal and social
13 burdens caused by metastatic breast cancer, the needs of patients afflicted by the disease, and
14 the promotion of promising research efforts in the development of more effective treatments
15 to combat the disease; and

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

19 WHEREAS, it is altogether fitting and proper to observe Metastatic Breast Cancer
20 Awareness Month and to shed light on the devastation metastatic breast cancer brings to
21 communities throughout the state.

22 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives of the
23 Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize September 2017 as Metastatic Breast Cancer
24 Awareness Month in Louisiana and does hereby encourage the citizens of Louisiana to raise
25 awareness of metastatic breast cancer and to provide assistance to persons afflicted with this
26 devastating disease.

DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

HR 209 Original

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