

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 21

BY SENATOR PETERSON

A RESOLUTION

To commend the "Geaux for the Gold With Purpose" campaign at Loyola University for working to ensure that children with pediatric cancer have access to safe and effective treatment options.

WHEREAS, the With Purpose organization launched in 2014 as an attempt to advance treatment for childhood cancer and is a youth and community-led movement dedicated to ensuring that children living with cancer have access to safe and effective treatment options; and

WHEREAS, childhood cancer is the leading cause of death from disease among children in the United States, and one out of five diagnosed with cancer will not survive; and

WHEREAS, for many pediatric cancers, there has been little to no advancement for treatment since the 1970s; and

WHEREAS, the National Cancer Institute designates approximately four percent of its research budget to all forms of childhood cancer; and

WHEREAS, With Purpose supports advocacy and awareness efforts that attempt to persuade the National Cancer Institute to designate a higher percentage of research dollars to childhood cancers; and

WHEREAS, too often, promising discovery research for childhood cancer is published but does not result in clinical trials or new treatments for children actually fighting the disease; and

WHEREAS, With Purpose supports several organizations, including the Children's Cancer Therapy Development Institute, a nonprofit biotech company that translates discovery research into real clinical trials and, in the near future, life-saving treatments; and

WHEREAS, With Purpose also supports Kids Cancer, a groundbreaking organization that pioneered the Creating Hope Act, a priority voucher program that has resulted in almost one billion dollars in incentives for companies that develop drugs for kids with cancer and other life-threatening diseases; and

WHEREAS, students at Loyola University in New Orleans are currently working on the Geaux for the Gold With Purpose campaign which encourages students to stand up to childhood cancer; and

WHEREAS, access to safe and effective cancer treatment options for the smallest and most vulnerable citizens in Louisiana is a worthwhile cause, and support from the community plays a vital role in eradicating cancer from the lives of children.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby commend the Geaux for the Gold With Purpose campaign at Loyola University for working to ensure that children with pediatric cancer have access to safe and effective treatment options.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the Geaux for the Gold With Purpose campaign at Loyola University.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE