

2021 Regular Session

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 112

BY REPRESENTATIVE JONES

HEALTH/CANCER: Requests the Louisiana Department of Health to establish a pilot program to increase prostate cancer awareness and education

1 A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

2 To urge and request the Louisiana Department of Health to establish a pilot program to
3 increase prostate cancer awareness and education by implementing more efficient
4 screening and learning tools for men, specifically uninsured, middle-aged, African
5 American males.

6 WHEREAS, prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in American
7 men; and

8 WHEREAS, prostate cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in the United
9 States among males; and

10 WHEREAS, one in every seven men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer over the
11 course of his lifetime; and

12 WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society estimates that in 2021, in the United
13 States, there will be over two hundred forty thousand new cases and more than thirty-four
14 thousand deaths from prostate cancer; and

15 WHEREAS, approximately three thousand nine hundred men in Louisiana are
16 expected to be newly diagnosed in 2021; and

17 WHEREAS, there are typically no noticeable symptoms of prostate cancer in its
18 early stages; and

19 WHEREAS, nearly one million American men have prostate cancer and are unaware
20 of their condition; and

1 WHEREAS, compared to Caucasian males, African American men are more likely
2 to develop prostate cancer and are twice as likely to die from the disease; and

3 WHEREAS, African American men are also more likely than men of other races to
4 be diagnosed with advanced stages of the disease; and

5 WHEREAS, low-grade prostate cancer, in its early stages, has more aggressive
6 features in African Americans than in people of other races; and

7 WHEREAS, ongoing research promises further improvements in prostate cancer
8 prevention, early screening, early detection, and treatment; and

9 WHEREAS, early detection and treatment offer prostate cancer patients the best hope
10 for a full recovery, and improving patient outcomes depends a great deal on increasing
11 public awareness of prostate cancer and its risk factors; and

12 WHEREAS, additional focus is needed for outreach and education for uninsured
13 African American men on the benefits of prostate cancer screening, referral services, and
14 treatment options; and

15 WHEREAS, educating people in the United States, including healthcare providers,
16 about prostate cancer and early detection strategies is crucial to saving lives and preserving
17 families; and

18 WHEREAS, establishing a pilot program with the Louisiana Department of Health
19 to increase prostate cancer education and testing for uninsured African American men in
20 Louisiana could save lives by focusing on men of African descent over fifty years old and
21 providing prostate cancer screening, referral services, and treatment services along with
22 comprehensive outreach and education activities to ensure awareness and utilization.

23 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of Louisiana requests the
24 Louisiana Department of Health to establish a pilot program to increase prostate cancer
25 awareness and education by implementing more efficient screenings and learning tools for
26 men, specifically uninsured, middle-aged, African American males.

27 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the department shall submit its findings to the
28 Louisiana Legislature on the Prostate Cancer Pilot Program no later than February 1, 2022.

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)]

HCR 112 Original

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Jones

Establishes a pilot program to increase prostate cancer awareness and education. Further requests that the La. Dept. of Health submit its findings from the program to the Louisiana Legislature no later than February 1, 2022.