

2024 Regular Session

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 18

BY SENATOR MCMATH

SPECIAL DAY/WEEK/MONTH. Recognizes Saturday, October 5, 2024, as Ostomy Awareness Day.

1 A RESOLUTION

2 To recognize Saturday, October 5, 2024, as Ostomy Awareness Day.

3 WHEREAS, an ostomy is a type of surgery that creates an opening, called a stoma,
4 in the abdomen that allows for the removal of bodily waste when a person has lost the
5 normal function of digestive or urinary systems due to birth defects, colorectal cancer,
6 bladder cancer, Crohn's disease, ulcerative colitis, and other medical conditions; and

7 WHEREAS, ostomies are also necessary in cases of severe abdominal or pelvic
8 trauma resulting from accidents or from injuries sustained during military service; and

9 WHEREAS, the bodily waste passes through the stoma into an ostomy "pouch" on
10 the outside of the body or in the case of continent diversion surgeries, an internal surgically
11 created reservoir; and

12 WHEREAS, between seven hundred twenty-five thousand to one million Americans
13 have an ostomy, with approximately one hundred thousand new ostomy procedures
14 performed each year; and

15 WHEREAS, ostomy and continent diversion surgery can occur at any age and affects
16 people from all ethnic backgrounds; and

17 WHEREAS, largely through the efforts of United Ostomy Associations of America,
18 Inc., (UOAA) and its approximately three hundred affiliated support groups, Americans

