

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 113

BY SENATOR MARTINY

A RESOLUTION

To recognize Monday, May 9, 2016, as Louisiana Gray Day to increase brain cancer awareness and to encourage everyone to wear gray on that day.

WHEREAS, brain cancer is one of the most incurable forms of cancer and has an average survival period of only one to two years; and

WHEREAS, brain cancer strikes men, women, and children of every race and age; and

WHEREAS, brain tumors are the second leading cause of cancer-related death in children under the age of twenty; and

WHEREAS, approximately seventeen thousand people in the United States are diagnosed with cancer that began in or near the brain every year and this category of brain cancer is labeled as primary; and

WHEREAS, an additional one hundred thousand people in the United States are diagnosed each year with brain or spinal cord cancer that began in another part of the body and these cancers are labeled as secondary; and

WHEREAS, today, nearly seven hundred thousand people in the United States are living with a primary brain tumor and approximately one hundred seventy people born today will be diagnosed with brain cancer during their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, the most highly aggressive and deadliest form of brain cancer is Glioblastoma Multiforme, known as "GBM"; and

WHEREAS, because the brain is essential to the central nervous system, to thought, speech, emotions, vision, hearing, and movement, among many other functions, more than any other cancer, brain cancer can have life-altering psychological, cognitive, behavioral and physical effects; and

WHEREAS, the month of May is nationally recognized as brain cancer awareness month and on May 9 of each year the citizens of Louisiana are encouraged to wear the color gray to raise brain cancer awareness; and

WHEREAS, recognizing May 9, 2016, as Louisiana Gray Day will help to bring greater awareness of brain cancer and, perhaps, prevent some deaths from brain cancer through early detection; and

WHEREAS, in 2014, former Senator Mary Landrieu authored a resolution in the United States Senate to recognize May 9, 2014, as Louisiana Gray Day partly to honor the life of Gary Leingang, cut short by brain cancer, and his wife, Mona Leingang, who continues the fight to raise awareness of this destructive disease; and

WHEREAS, as each day brings new treatments for and better detection of brain cancer, it is hoped that awareness of this disease will hasten the day when this devastating and life-altering disease will be curable.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate of the Legislature of Louisiana does hereby recognize Monday, May 9, 2016, as Louisiana Gray Day to increase awareness of brain cancer and to encourage everyone to wear gray on that day.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to Mrs. Mona Leingang.

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PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE