

HR 9117

2011

House Resolution

A resolution designating November 2011 as "Lung Cancer Awareness Month" in Florida.

WHEREAS, Florida ranks second in the nation in both the number of new lung cancer cases and the number of deaths per year, with approximately 18,500 Floridians diagnosed in 2010 and an estimated 11,600 expected to die from this disease, and

WHEREAS, lung cancer causes more deaths than any other cancer, the 5-year survival rate for all stages of lung cancer combined is only 16 percent, and screening for early lung cancer detection has not yet been proven to reduce mortality, and

WHEREAS, the most significant risk factors for developing lung cancer are cigarette smoking and other tobacco consumption, with more than 87 percent of all lung cancer deaths attributed to smoking tobacco products, and

WHEREAS, health costs for lung cancer and other smoking-related diseases in Florida are estimated at \$6.32 billion, with \$1.2 billion in state Medicaid costs, and

WHEREAS, established comprehensive tobacco-prevention programs in other states have resulted in significant declines in state health care costs and other smoking-caused expenditures and have prevented thousands of people from suffering from a wide range of smoking-related illnesses, and

WHEREAS, nearly 50,000 deaths in the United States each year from lung cancer and heart disease are attributed to second-hand smoke exposure, and

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28 WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society, in partnership with
29 the Florida Department of Health, helps smokers quit through the
30 proven cessation support of the Florida Quit-For-Life-Line, and

31 WHEREAS, the Florida Division of the American Cancer
32 Society is committed to fighting lung cancer through all
33 scientifically proven methods, including the comprehensive
34 statewide youth tobacco prevention and cessation program
35 recommended by the United States Centers for Disease Control and
36 Prevention, NOW, THEREFORE,

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38 Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of
39 Florida:

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41 That the month of November 2011 is designated as "Lung
42 Cancer Awareness Month" in the State of Florida, and all
43 Floridians are urged to understand and take steps to minimize
44 lung cancer risks and to join the American Cancer Society in
45 promoting better health through the cessation of current smoking
46 and prevention of future tobacco use.