

2011-K1475

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION memorializing Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim June 2012, as Men's Health Awareness Month in the State of New York

WHEREAS, The health concerns of men affect all people in the Empire State, as nearly every citizen has had a father, husband, son, brother or male friend die from disease or illness at a premature age; and

WHEREAS, Despite advances in medical technology and research, men continue to live an average of five years less than women; and

WHEREAS, The 10 leading causes of death in men are heart disease, prostate and other cancers, stroke, accidents and unintentional injuries, lung disease, diabetes, pneumonia and influenza, suicide, chronic liver disease and cirrhosis, and kidney disease; and

WHEREAS, According to the American Cancer Society, one in two men are diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, The likelihood that a man will develop prostate cancer is 1 in 6; and

WHEREAS, According to the American Cancer Society, it is estimated that 241,730 new cases of prostate cancer will occur in the United States in 2012; prostate cancer is the second-leading cause of cancer death in men; an estimated 28,170 men will die from prostate cancer in 2012; and

WHEREAS, African-American men in the United States have the highest incidence of prostate cancer; and

WHEREAS, The number of cancer survivors is growing in the United States as a result of doctors' ability to find cancer earlier, diagnose cancer more accurately, and treat cancer more effectively; and

WHEREAS, Follow-up care and patient education on cancer survivorship issues after prostate cancer treatment is a critical component to patient care that will aid in the survivors' physical and psychosocial well-being and provide them with coordinated care; and

WHEREAS, An estimated 13 million men in America are affected by low testosterone, also known as hypogonadism; despite the high prevalence of this disease, testosterone deficiency is under treated and overlooked

because men frequently ignore their symptoms or attribute them to other causes such as aging; and

WHEREAS, Many men are reluctant to visit their health center or physician for regular screening examinations of male related problems for a variety of reasons including fear, lack of information, and cost factors; and

WHEREAS, Significant numbers of male related health problems such as prostate cancer, testicular cancer, infertility, and colon cancer, could be detected and treated if men's awareness of these problems was more pervasive; and

WHEREAS, Educating both the public and health care providers about the importance of early detection of male health problems will result in reducing rates of mortality for these diseases; and

WHEREAS, Appropriate use of tests such as Prostate Specific Antigen (PSA) exams, blood pressure screens, and cholesterol screens, in conjunction with clinical examination and self-testing can result in the detection of many of these problems in their early stages and increases in the survival rates; and

WHEREAS, Men who are educated about the value that preventive health can play in prolonging their lifespan and their role as a productive family member will be more likely to participate in health screenings and proactively take charge of their health; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to memorialize Governor Andrew M. Cuomo to proclaim June 2012, as Men's Health Awareness Month in the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to The Honorable Andrew M. Cuomo, Governor of the State of New York.