

Substitute for House Resolution No. 341.

A resolution to declare May 14-20, 2018, as Bladder Cancer Awareness Week in the state of Michigan.

Whereas, An estimated 3,070 people in the state of Michigan are expected to be diagnosed with bladder cancer in 2018 and an estimated 630 will die due to the disease in 2018 alone; and

Whereas, Bladder cancer affects people of all ages and backgrounds and is among the top 10 cancers with the highest incidence rates in the United States. It is the 4th most common cancer in men and the 11th most common cancer in women; and

Whereas, Bladder cancer is known as one of the most expensive cancers to treat on a per patient basis with a recurrence rate of approximately 50 to 80 percent, requiring lifelong surveillance; and

Whereas, Bladder cancer symptoms, such as blood in the urine, are easily recognized, however, many are unaware of the threat of bladder cancer, often prolonging time to diagnosis; and

Whereas, Women are often diagnosed at a later stage in the development of bladder cancer and when diagnosed at the same stage as men, women have a worse prognosis; and

Whereas, If diagnosed early, bladder cancer is treatable. If diagnosis and treatment are delayed, the life expectancy of an individual with bladder cancer decreases; and

Whereas, The quality of life of a person with bladder cancer will depend on future treatment and diagnosis developments, which will rely on research advancements. There have been no new treatments developed for bladder cancer in more than 20 years. Research advancements for bladder cancer are limited by lack of awareness about the disease within the medical community and general public; and

Whereas, Increased awareness will promote early diagnosis and increase chances of survival. Elevated public support will increase funding for innovative research and the development of new treatment options and diagnostic tools; and

Whereas, The Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network and its community of patients, caregivers, and specialists seek to foster a community of hope and support, fund and conduct research for innovative treatments and diagnostic tools, and increase public awareness and understanding of bladder cancer; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, That the members of this legislative body declare May 14-20, 2018, as Bladder Cancer Awareness Week in the state of Michigan. We recognize this as a special time for the people of Michigan, interested groups, and affected persons to promote awareness of bladder cancer and to foster understanding of the impact of the disease on patients and their families and caregivers. We encourage all Michiganders to take an active role in the fight to end bladder cancer and observe Bladder Cancer Awareness Week with appropriate activities.