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SCR-106 Lynch Syndrome Hereditary Cancer Awareness Day. (2017-2018)

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 106

CHAPTER 41

Relative to Lynch Syndrome Hereditary Cancer Awareness Day.

[Filed with Secretary of State April 17, 2018.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 106, McGuire. Lynch Syndrome Hereditary Cancer Awareness Day.

This measure would proclaim March 22, 2018, as Lynch Syndrome Hereditary Cancer Awareness Day.

Fiscal Committee: no

WHEREAS, Lynch syndrome, formerly known as hereditary nonpolyposis colorectal cancer (HNPCC), is a hereditary condition that causes a greater risk of developing colorectal, endometrial, ovarian, gastric, hepatobiliary tract, urinary tract, kidney, breast, skin, and brain cancer; and

WHEREAS, Lynch syndrome is caused by a genetic defect to a mismatch repair gene which that is intended to correct errors that occur in DNA replication; and

WHEREAS, Lynch syndrome creates a hereditary predisposition to a litany of cancers at a high lifetime risk and often at an early onset age. This predisposition includes up to 82 percent risk for colorectal cancer, up to 71 percent risk for endometrial cancer, up to 24 percent risk for ovarian cancer, up to 13 percent risk for gastric cancer, and up to 4 to 10 percent risk for urinary tract and kidney cancer; and

WHEREAS, Geneticists have projected that up to 1,000,000 persons throughout the United States live with Lynch syndrome, and estimate that one in every 279 persons has Lynch syndrome; and

WHEREAS, Studies show that only 5 to 10 percent of persons affected by the syndrome have been diagnosed, which leaves many Californians vulnerable to develop cancer; and

WHEREAS, Education and public awareness can encourage individuals to learn their family histories of cancer and discuss them with their physicians and obtain genetic testing as indicated, thereby saving thousands of California lives from the threat of aggressive hereditary cancers; and

WHEREAS, Genetic counseling and testing could identify affected individuals and qualify them for regular annual cancer screening tests to prevent cancer or to detect cancer before it becomes life threatening; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring, That the Legislature recognizes and supports the importance of public awareness and education regarding Lynch Syndrome by declaring March 22, 2018, as Lynch Syndrome

Hereditary Cancer Awareness Day; and be it further

Resolved, That the Legislature encourages all California residents to learn more about this hereditary condition, to collect their family history information, and to share this pertinent information with their health care provider in order to assess individual risk and take steps toward prevention and detection; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.