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SR-115 (2017-2018)

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ENROLLED AUGUST 07, 2018

PASSED IN SENATE AUGUST 06, 2018

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2017–2018 REGULAR SESSION

SENATE RESOLUTION

NO. 115

Introduced by Senators Bates, Dodd, and Nielsen

June 19, 2018

Relative to Curing Stomach Cancer Month

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SR 115, Bates.

WHEREAS, Debbie Zelman was a 40-year-old mother of three young children, married to a physician, and a practicing attorney with her own firm, when her life changed dramatically upon learning she had stage IV stomach cancer; and

WHEREAS, Debbie was told there were very few effective treatment options for advanced stomach cancer because it is not a common cancer in the United States, and her chance of being alive in five years was only 4 percent; and

WHEREAS, Debbie immediately began to educate herself about this disease and to seek the best available care, closing her law practice and beginning the fight of her life; and

WHEREAS, Debbie founded Debbie's Dream Foundation: Curing Stomach Cancer, a nonprofit organization dedicated to raising awareness about stomach cancer, advancing funding for research, and providing education and support internationally to patients, families, and caregivers, while pursuing the ultimate goal of making the cure for stomach cancer a reality; and

WHEREAS, Stomach cancer is among the cancers with the lowest five-year survival rate; and

WHEREAS, Out of 26,240 new cases diagnosed each year in the United States, 10,800 people will die in the first year of diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, Most stomach cancers are diagnosed at stage IV, which only has a 5 percent five-year survival rate; and

WHEREAS, It is estimated that more than 95,000 people in the United States are currently living with stomach cancer; and

WHEREAS, Stomach cancer has increased by 70 percent in young adults between 25 and 39 years of age since 1977; and

WHEREAS, The overall survival rate for stomach cancer is 31 percent and stomach cancer mortality rates have remained relatively unchanged over the past 30 years; and

WHEREAS, Stomach cancer continues to be one of the leading causes of cancer-related death; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, That the Senate honors the founder Debbie Zelman and Debbie's Dream Foundation and designates the month of November 2018 as Curing Stomach Cancer Month in the State of California; and be it further

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