

MAR 10 2017

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

DESIGNATING OCTOBER 13, 2017, AS METASTATIC BREAST CANCER
AWARENESS DAY.

1 WHEREAS, metastatic breast cancer has affected the lives of
2 thousands of families across Hawaii; and

3
4 WHEREAS, cancer is considered to be metastatic when it
5 spreads beyond its site of origin and affects other organs and
6 systems including the bones, lungs, liver, and brain; and

7
8 WHEREAS, while public awareness of and attention to early
9 detection and routine diagnosis of breast cancer has caused
10 tremendous progress in effective treatment and increased
11 survival rates over the past 30 years, no cure exists for
12 metastatic breast cancer and those affected by it must bear the
13 burden of continual treatment with the goal of preserving
14 quality of life for as long as possible; and

15
16 WHEREAS, approximately 1,140 women in Hawaii were diagnosed
17 with breast cancer in 2015; and

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19 WHEREAS, approximately six percent of newly diagnosed cases
20 of breast cancer are metastatic at the time of diagnosis and
21 approximately 30 percent of cases will become metastatic or
22 recurrent; and

23
24 WHEREAS, although breast cancer occurs across all
25 socioeconomic groups, women of color experience higher rates of
26 mortality despite experiencing lower rates of occurrence than
27 white women; and

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29 WHEREAS, while there have been advances in treatment for
30 metastatic breast cancer, their benefit has so far been
31 contained to only a small subset of specific cancer types



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1 leaving the majority of patients and their families to bear the
2 enormous burden of treatment costs, family stress, and loss; and
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4 WHEREAS, while metastatic breast cancer remains incurable,
5 there is reason to be hopeful as extensive research is underway
6 and support and resources are available to patients and their
7 families through medical providers, in the community, and
8 online; and
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10 WHEREAS, more research is still needed, particularly on the
11 personal and social burdens of metastatic breast cancer, so that
12 new and more effective treatments may be developed; and
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14 WHEREAS, the State will continue to support policies that
15 make diagnosis, treatment, and support resources accessible to
16 all Hawaii residents; now, therefore,
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18 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-ninth
19 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2017, the
20 House of Representatives concurring, that October 13, 2017, is
21 designated as Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day; and
22

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this
24 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, Director
25 of Health, and the respective Mayors of the City and County of
26 Honolulu and the Counties of Hawaii, Kauai, and Maui.
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