

109TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

S. RES. 578

Recognizing that the occurrence of prostate cancer in African American men has reached epidemic proportions and urging Federal agencies to address that health crisis by designating funds for education, awareness outreach, and research specifically focused on how that disease affects African American men.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 21, 2006

Mr. KERRY submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the
Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

RESOLUTION

Recognizing that the occurrence of prostate cancer in African American men has reached epidemic proportions and urging Federal agencies to address that health crisis by designating funds for education, awareness outreach, and research specifically focused on how that disease affects African American men.

Whereas the incidence of prostate cancer in African American men is 60 percent higher than any other racial or ethnic group in the United States;

Whereas African American men have the highest mortality rate of any ethnic and racial group in the United States, dying at a rate that is 140 percent higher than other ethnic and racial groups;

Whereas that rate of mortality represents the largest disparity of mortality rates in any of the major cancers;

Whereas prostate cancer can be cured with early detection and the proper treatment, regardless of the ethnic or racial group of the cancer patient;

Whereas African Americans are more likely to be diagnosed earlier in age and at a later stage of cancer progression than for all other ethnic and racial groups, thereby leading to lower cure rates and lower chances of survival; and

Whereas, according to a recent paper published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, researchers from the Dana Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School have discovered a variant of a small segment of the human genome that accounts for the higher risk of prostate cancer in African American men: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) recognizes that prostate cancer has created
3 a health crisis for African American men; and

4 (2) declares the critical importance of the des-
5 ignation of increased funding for—

6 (A) research to address and attempt to end
7 the health crisis created by prostate cancer; and

8 (B) efforts relating to education, aware-
9 ness, and early detection at the grassroots levels
10 to end that health crisis.

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