****

**A Resolution on Prostate Cancer Awareness**

**COMMITTEE: Health (HEA) RESOLUTION:** HEA-19-04

1. **WHEREAS**, prostate cancer is a disease that disproportionately affects African
2. American males, with incidence rates 1.6 times higher than non-African-American
3. males;
4. **WHEREAS**, prostate cancer is a disease that disproportionately affects all men with
5. a family history of this disease (particularly brother and/or father) and as they
6. advance in age;
7. **WHEREAS**, African-American males die from prostate cancer at a rate 2.5 times
8. higher than White males;
9. **WHEREAS**, prostate cancer is detected in African-American males, on average, at a
10. younger age than White males;
11. **WHEREAS**, race, age and family history present a triple risk for older African
12. Americans;
13. **WHEREAS**, early detection and treatment of prostate cancer can prevent deaths and
14. metastatic spread of prostate cancer in the body and related pain and suffering; and
15. **WHEREAS**, according to the American Cancer Society. Cancer Facts & Figures for
16. African Americans 2019-2021 "About 202,260 new cancer cases and 73,030 cancer
17. deaths are expected to occur among blacks in 2019."
18. **WHEREAS,** African Americans have the highest death rate and shortest survival of
19. any racial and ethnic group in the US for most cancers.
20. **WHEREAS,** since 1990, however, the overall cancer death rate has dropped faster in
21. blacks than whites among both men and women, largely driven by more rapid
22. declines in blacks for cancers of the lung, colorectum, and prostate.
23. **WHEREAS,** as a result of this progress, the black-white disparity in cancer mortality
24. has narrowed and more than 462,000 cancer deaths in blacks were avoided over the
25. past 25 years.
26. **WHEREAS,** the National Organization of Black Elected Legislative Women
27. supports the USPSTF Transparency and Accountability Act of 2019 -legislation
28. sponsored by Reps. Phil Roe (R-TN) and Bobby Rush (D-IL), that would ensure
29. screening coverage is provided to African-American men and men with a family
30. history of prostate cancer regardless of the USPSTF recommendation for these
31. populations.
32. **THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,** the National Organization of Black Elected
33. Legislative Women (NOBELW) calls on states to take action on prostate cancer
34. awareness;
35. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** that NOBEL Women call on states to encourage
36. culturally competent outreach efforts to educate and inform communities of color on
37. the importance of early detection;
38. **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,** NOBEL Women calls on states to encourage
39. African American men to participate in clinical trials and for clinical trials to actively
40. recruit African-American men;
41. **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED,** that a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the
42. President of the United States, Vice President of the United States, members of the
43. United States House of Representatives and the United States senate, and other
44. federal and state government officials as appropriate.