

**Second Regular Session
Seventieth General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

ENGROSSED

LLS NO. R16-1202.01 Melanie Pawlyszyn x2802

SJR16-031

SENATE SPONSORSHIP

Kerr, Cadman

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Primavera,

Senate Committees

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 16-031

101 **CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF NOVEMBER 2016 AS "BLADDER**
102 **HEALTH MONTH" IN COLORADO.**

1 WHEREAS, Tens of millions of Americans are affected by
2 bladder diseases and conditions, including urinary incontinence,
3 overactive bladder, underactive bladder, interstitial cystitis, nocturia,
4 urinary tract infections, bladder cancer, urotrauma, and neurogenic
5 bladder; and

6 WHEREAS, Urinary tract infections cause over 8 million health
7 care provider visits each year; and

8 WHEREAS, An estimated 4 to 12 million American men, women,
9 and children of any age or race may have interstitial cystitis; and

Shading denotes HOUSE amendment. Double underlining denotes SENATE amendment.
Capital letters indicate new material to be added to existing statute.
Dashes through the words indicate deletions from existing statute.

SENATE
Final Reading
April 12, 2016

1 WHEREAS, An estimated 76,960 Americans are diagnosed with
2 bladder cancer each year; and

3 Whereas, The University of Colorado Cancer Center (UCCC), as
4 the only National Cancer Institute-designated comprehensive cancer
5 center in the State of Colorado, is at the forefront of basic, clinical, and
6 translational cancer research in bladder and other cancers for both human
7 and companion animal use; and

8 Whereas, The UCCC's contributions include the precision
9 medicine genomic approach called COXEN for optimal therapy
10 assignment and the discovery and development of novel drugs; and

11 WHEREAS, Bladder diseases and conditions have significant
12 impact on a person's health and quality of life, contributing to depression,
13 social isolation, accidents, sexual dysfunction, loss of self-esteem,
14 hospitalizations, nursing home admissions, and even death; and

15 WHEREAS, Nursing home admissions due to urinary incontinence
16 are estimated to cost \$6 billion annually; and

17 WHEREAS, At least 80% of Americans living with multiple
18 sclerosis (MS) report bladder symptoms at the time of diagnosis, yet
19 studies have shown that only 43% of people with MS experiencing
20 moderate to severe bladder symptoms had ever been evaluated by a
21 urologist; and

22 WHEREAS, Medical and behavioral research to better understand
23 and maintain bladder health and treat bladder diseases is critically needed;
24 and

25 WHEREAS, Despite negative health consequences, less than half
26 of patients seek treatment for their bladder control problems, and a
27 majority of those who do seek treatment only do so a year or more after
28 the onset of symptoms; and

29 WHEREAS, Bladder problems are highly stigmatized, and open
30 dialogue generated by awareness-raising efforts such as Bladder Health
31 Month can reduce this stigma and empower providers and patients to
32 have much needed conversations about bladder health; now, therefore,

33 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventieth General Assembly*

1 *of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:*

2 That November 2016 is designated as Bladder Health Month in
3 Colorado.

4 *Be It Further Resolved*, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent
5 to the National Association for Continence and Dan Theodorescu,
6 director of the University of Colorado Cancer Center.