

**First Regular Session
Seventy-first General Assembly
STATE OF COLORADO**

INTRODUCED

LLS NO. R17-0938.01 Darren Thornberry x4143

SJR17-040

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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 17-040

101 **CONCERNING THE DESIGNATION OF OCTOBER 13, 2017, AS**
102 **"METASTATIC BREAST CANCER AWARENESS DAY".**

1 WHEREAS, Thousands of families across Colorado are affected
2 by metastatic breast cancer; and

3 WHEREAS, Much of the discussion about breast cancer focuses
4 on early detection and routine diagnosis, which have seen tremendous
5 progress in the last 30 years; and

6 WHEREAS, The story for advanced breast cancer is quite different
7 because metastatic breast cancer patients continue to face many unique
8 challenges, such as the emotional and physical demands of continual
9 treatment and high mortality; 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.

1 WHEREAS, This devastating stage of breast cancer occurs when
2 cancer spreads beyond the breast to other parts of the body, including the
3 bones, lungs, liver, and brain; and

4 WHEREAS, Currently no cure exists for metastatic breast cancer,
5 and those with metastatic breast cancer will continue treatment
6 indefinitely with the goal of extending life of the best quality possible;
7 and

8 WHEREAS, More than one in 8 women in the United States will
9 be affected by invasive breast cancer in their lifetimes, and, specifically
10 in Colorado, it is expected that 3,840 women will be diagnosed with
11 breast cancer in 2017; and

12 WHEREAS, Breast cancer can spread quickly and inexplicably,
13 regardless of the treatment or preventive measures taken; and

14 WHEREAS, The Metastatic Breast Cancer Network estimates that
15 6-10% of newly diagnosed breast cancer cases are diagnosed as
16 metastatic disease, and it is estimated that 20-30% of early-stage breast
17 cancer cases will become metastatic or recurrent advanced cases; and

18 WHEREAS, This devastating disease affects all races and
19 socioeconomic classes; and

20 WHEREAS, Although white women see the greatest incidence of
21 breast cancer, the mortality rate for African-American women with breast
22 cancer is higher than for white women, and breast cancer is the leading
23 cause of cancer-related deaths for Hispanic women; and

24 WHEREAS, Any discussions of breast cancer should include the
25 spectrum from screening through metastatic breast cancer; and

26 WHEREAS, The physical, psychological, social, and economic
27 burdens of metastatic breast cancer on patients, their families, caregivers,
28 and communities are large; and

29 WHEREAS, Metastatic breast cancer cuts short the lives of too
30 many people in Colorado, leaving a lasting effect on their families; and

31 WHEREAS, While there have been treatment advances in
32 metastatic breast cancer, many of those advances have benefitted a small

1 subset of patients with specific types of metastatic breast cancer; and

2 WHEREAS, While metastatic breast cancer remains incurable,
3 there is reason to be hopeful as extensive research efforts are underway
4 to address this high unmet need; and

5 WHEREAS, Clinicaltrials.gov and breastcancertrials.org are
6 searchable databases that provide the public with information about
7 current ongoing clinical research studies; and

8 WHEREAS, Additional focus is needed on the personal,
9 economic, and social burdens of metastatic breast cancer, the needs of the
10 patient, and promising research efforts in the development of more
11 effective treatments; and

12 WHEREAS, There is still more research to be done for metastatic
13 breast cancer so that new and more effective treatments can be developed;
14 and

15 WHEREAS, Colorado will continue to push for crucial research
16 and advanced treatments for metastatic breast cancer; and

17 WHEREAS, Individuals diagnosed with metastatic breast cancer
18 can speak with their physicians to learn more about the disease, find
19 support groups and services in their communities and online, and learn
20 about how to participate in metastatic breast cancer research trials; now,
21 therefore,

22 *Be It Resolved by the Senate of the Seventy-first General Assembly*
23 *of the State of Colorado, the House of Representatives concurring herein:*

24 (1) That we, the members of the Colorado General Assembly, are
25 honored to designate, observe, and proclaim October 13, 2017, to be
26 "Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day";

27 (2) That we wish to shed light on the devastation metastatic breast
28 cancer brings to communities throughout Colorado;

29 (3) That we encourage primary care providers, oncology nurse
30 navigators, and social workers to develop an enhanced understanding of
31 health care options to manage and prevent symptoms and side effects
32 related to the disease, improve the quality of life for Coloradans living

1 with metastatic breast cancer, and encourage patients to participate in
2 ongoing metastatic breast cancer trials;

3 (4) That we encourage Colorado medical research institutions and
4 researchers to increase resources allocated toward understanding how to
5 prevent metastatic breast cancer and toward expanding treatment options
6 for metastatic disease; and

7 (5) That we ask the citizens of Colorado to become informed and
8 aware of metastatic breast cancer.

9 *Be It Further Resolved*, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent
10 to: Colorado's Congressional Delegation, Colorado Consumer Health
11 Network, Colorado Center on Law and Policy, Colorado Association of
12 Family Physicians, Colorado Rural Health Center, High Plains Oncology
13 Professionals, Metro Denver Oncology Nursing Society, Pikes Peak
14 Oncology Nursing Society, Rocky Mountain Oncology Society,
15 University of Colorado Cancer Center, Colorado Cancer Research
16 Program, Susan G. Komen Colorado, Susan G. Komen Colorado South,
17 and the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network.