**A** **SENATE RESOLUTION**

TO DECLARE MAY 2013 AS “BLADDER CANCER AWARENESS MONTH” IN SOUTH CAROLINA, TO PROMOTE UNDERSTANDING OF THE GROWING RISK OF BLADDER CANCER IN THE UNITED STATES, TO ENCOURAGE RESEARCH IN THE MEDICAL COMMUNITY TO IDENTIFY THE CAUSES AND DEVELOP A CURE FOR THE DISEASE, AND TO COMMEND BOY SCOUT TROOP 2 FROM SUMMERVILLE FOR ITS EFFORTS IN THIS ENDEAVOR.

Whereas, bladder cancer is cancer that forms in tissues of the bladder, the internal organ that stores urine, with most bladder cancers presenting as transitional cell carcinomas, beginning in cells that normally make up the inner lining of the bladder; and

Whereas, while the exact cause of bladder cancer is uncertain, several factors may make people more likely to develop it, such as cigarette smoking, exposure to chemicals at work, chemotherapy, radiation treatment, and chronic bladder infections; and

Whereas, the National Cancer Institute estimates that in the United States 72,570 new cases of bladder cancer will be reported in 2013 and that 15,210 deaths will result from the disease; and

Whereas, according to the Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network, although bladder cancer is the fifth leading type of cancer and is a growing type of cancer among women, research for the disease receives little support; and

Whereas, this winter in South Carolina, Boy Scout Troop 2 from Summerville completed a fifty‑mile hike to raise funds for bladder cancer research and awareness of the disease after Joe Justis, one of the Scouts in the troop, lost his grandmother to the disease; and

Whereas, to underscore the important challenges associated with bladder cancer, the South Carolina Senate wishes to recognize May 2013 as “Bladder Cancer Awareness Month” throughout the Palmetto State. Now, therefore,

Be it resolved by the Senate:

That the members of the South Carolina Senate, by this resolution, declare May 2013 as “Bladder Cancer Awareness Month” in South Carolina, promote understanding of the growing risk of bladder cancer in the United States, encourage research in the medical community to identify the causes and develop a cure for the disease, and commend Boy Scout Troop 2 from Summerville for its efforts in this endeavor.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this resolution be provided to Boy Scout Troop 2 of Summerville, South Carolina.

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