

MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF PLACER

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors

FROM: Richard J. Burton, M.D., M.P.H., Health Officer, and HHS Department Director
Mike Boyle, Assistant County Executive

DATE: September 14, 2010

SUBJECT: PROCLAMATION – Approve a Proclamation declaring September 2010 to be Prostate Cancer Awareness Month in Placer County.

ACTION REQUESTED

Approve a Proclamation declaring September 2010 to be Prostate Cancer Awareness Month in Placer County.

BACKGROUND/COMMUNITY BENEFITS

Each year, the President of the United States, the United States Senate, and the Governors of most States issue proclamations declaring September as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month. Many counties and cities also recognize Prostate Cancer Awareness Month in September by issuing their own proclamations.

There are approximately 2.2 million men alive today with a history of prostate cancer. It is the most diagnosed cancer in men today, second only to skin cancer. After lung cancer, prostate cancer is also the number one cause of cancer death in men. The American Cancer Society estimates that one in six men will develop prostate cancer in their lifetime, with 217,730 estimated new cases of the disease in the USA in 2010, which will result in 32,050 deaths. The early stages of the disease usually show no symptoms, but early detection is the key to survival. The five-year survival rate for prostate cancer is 100 percent if the disease is treated early. The percentage rate drastically drops to 31 percent if the cancer has metastasized.

In California, prostate cancer is the most common form of cancer among men in almost all racial/ethnic groups and more men are diagnosed with prostate cancer in California than any other state. California also has the highest number of deaths from the disease. The expected new cases for 2010 are 20,120 men, with new deaths expected to be 3,035. The American Cancer Society recommends that every man be offered an annual prostate examination beginning at age 50. Men at average risk should receive this information at age 50, and African-American men and men with a father or brother diagnosed with prostate cancer before age 65 should receive this information beginning at age 45. Men with multiple family members diagnosed with prostate cancer before age 65 should receive this information beginning at age 40.

This Proclamation declaring September 2010 as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month will help save lives by raising awareness of the importance of screening and early detection. By educating others and ourselves about this disease, we can improve our ability to prevent, detect, treat, and ultimately cure prostate cancer.

FISCAL IMPACT

None.

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**In the matter of a Proclamation recognizing September 2010
as "Prostate Cancer Awareness Month" in Placer County.**

WHEREAS, prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in American men and the second cause of cancer deaths in men, exceeded only by lung cancer; and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society estimates one in six men will develop prostate cancer in their lifetime, and there will be 217,730 new cases of the disease in the USA in 2010, resulting in 32,050 deaths; and

WHEREAS, in California, prostate cancer is the most common cancer among men in almost all race and ethnic groups, and African-American men are over 45% more likely to develop this disease than non-Hispanic white men and over 60% more likely than Hispanic men; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 21,000 men in California will be diagnosed with prostate cancer this year and 3,000 California men will die from this disease; and

WHEREAS, the survival rate approaches 100% when prostate cancer is diagnosed and treated early, but drops to 31% when it spreads to the other parts of the body; and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society recommends that asymptomatic men who have at least a 10-year life expectancy should have an opportunity to make an informed decision with their health care provider about screening for prostate cancer; and

WHEREAS, men at average risk should receive this information at age 50 and African American men and men with a father or brother diagnosed with prostate cancer before age 65 should receive this information beginning at age 45; and

WHEREAS, men with multiple family members diagnosed with prostate cancer before age 65 should receive this information beginning at age 40; and

WHEREAS, very little is known about the causes of prostate cancer and most prostate cancer cases are diagnosed as the result of a PSA screening test; and

WHEREAS, the Placer County Board of Supervisors joins communities across our nation to increase the awareness about the importance of early detection and treatment of this disease.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED that the Placer County Board of Supervisors does hereby declare September 2010 as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month in Placer County.

Kirk Uhler, Supervisor, District 4
Chairman 2010

Jim Holmes
Supervisor, District 3

Robert M. Weygandt
Supervisor, District 2

F. C. "Rocky" Rockholm
Supervisor, District 2

Jennifer Montgomery
Supervisor, District 5

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