

**MEMORANDUM**  
OFFICE OF THE  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
COUNTY OF PLACER

**TO:** Honorable Board of Supervisors

**FROM :** Richard J. Burton, M.D., M.P.H.,  
Placer County Health Officer and Department Director of Health and Human Services  
Mark Starr, D.V.M., M.P.V.M., Director of Community Health/Clinics and Animal  
Services

**DATE:** September 11, 2012

**SUBJECT:** Declare September 2012 as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month in Placer County

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**ACTION REQUESTED**

Approve a Proclamation declaring September 2012 to be Prostate Cancer Awareness Month.

**BACKGROUND/COMMUNITY BENEFITS**

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

Today there are more than 2.5 million men alive in the USA with a history of prostate cancer. Prostate cancer 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 1 in 6 men will develop prostate cancer in their lifetime. Every 18 minutes, an American man dies from prostate cancer. The early stages of prostate cancer usually show no symptoms and there are no self-tests. Early detection is the key to prostate cancer survival. The 5-year survival rate for prostate cancer is 100% if the disease is treated early. The 5-year survival rate drops to 29% if the cancer has metastasized.

In California, prostate cancer is the most common form of cancer among men in almost all racial/ethnic groups. More men are diagnosed with prostate cancer in California than any other state. California also has the highest number of deaths from this disease. It is estimated that this year in the State, 20,195 men will be diagnosed and 3,085 men will die from this disease.

This Proclamation declaring September 2012 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.

**September 11, 2012 In the matter of a Proclamation  
Recognizing September 2012 as "Prostate Cancer Awareness Month" in Placer  
County**

This Proclamation was adopted by the Placer County Board of Supervisors on September 11, 2012 with all members present voting aye.

**WHEREAS**, prostate cancer is the most frequently diagnosed cancer in men aside from skin cancer, and the second leading cause of cancer death in men aside from lung cancer; and

**WHEREAS**, the American Cancer Society estimates there will be 241,740 new cases of prostate cancer in the USA in 2012, resulting in an estimated 28,170 deaths, and it is estimated that 1 in 6 men will develop this disease in their lifetime; 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 56% more likely to develop this disease than non-Hispanic white men and over 78% more likely than Hispanic men; and

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated 20,195 men in California will be diagnosed with prostate cancer this year and it is estimated 3,085 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 29% when it spreads to the other parts of the body; and

**WHEREAS**, early prostate cancer usually has no symptoms and familial predisposition may be responsible for 5% to 10% of the disease cases; and

**WHEREAS**, the American Cancer Society recommends that all men should be given sufficient information about the benefits and limitations of testing and early detection to allow them to make a decision based on their personal values and preferences; and

**WHEREAS**, the Placer County Board of Supervisors joins communities across our nation to increase the awareness about the importance for men to make an informed decision with their health care provider about early detection and testing for prostate cancer; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Placer County Board of Supervisors hereby designates September 2012 as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month.

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Jennifer Montgomery, Supervisor District 5  
Chairwoman 2012

Jack Duran, Supervisor District 1  
Robert M. Weygandt, Supervisor District 2  
Jim Holmes, Supervisor District 3  
Kirk Uhler, Supervisor District 4