

(LIMITED RUN SHOWING ALL ADDITIONAL SPONSORSHIPS)

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 20

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTY-FOURTH LEGISLATURE - FIRST SESSION

BY REPRESENTATIVES GATTO, Gruenberg, Lynn, Dahlstrom, Kerttula, McGuire

SENATORS Wilken, Stedman, Olson, Cowdery, Ellis, Seekins, Wagoner, Ben Stevens

Introduced: 4/21/05

Referred: Health, Education and Social Services

A RESOLUTION

1 **Urging the United States Congress and the United States Food and Drug Administration**
 2 **to assist in the prompt approval of new drug applications for the treatment of prostate**
 3 **cancer.**

4 **BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:**

5 **WHEREAS** four Alaskans a day contracted cancer in 1996; and

6 **WHEREAS** five Alaskans a day will contract cancer in 2005; and

7 **WHEREAS** in 1996, one out of every 59 men between the ages of 40 and 59
 8 contracted prostate cancer; and

9 **WHEREAS** in 2005, one out of every 39 men between the ages of 40 and 59 will
 10 contract prostate cancer; and

11 **WHEREAS** the rate of men contracting prostate cancer between the ages of 40 and 59
 12 is increasing rapidly; and

13 **WHEREAS** the cost of cancer in terms of lost productivity is estimated at
 14 \$16,900,000,000 each year in the United States; and

15 **WHEREAS** approximately 25 men die every year from prostate cancer in Alaska; and

1 **WHEREAS** prostate cancer is second only to lung cancer as the leading cause of
2 cancer-related death in men; and

3 **WHEREAS** most other major types of cancer have specialized drugs associated with
4 their treatment; and

5 **WHEREAS** prostate cancer has no specialized drug associated with its treatment; and

6 **WHEREAS** recent trials have indicated the effectiveness of Xinlay (atrasentan) as a
7 targeted treatment for metastatic hormone-refractory prostate cancer, an advanced stage of the
8 disease that has spread to other parts of the body and no longer responds to hormone
9 treatment; and

10 **WHEREAS** recently completed clinical trials indicate that Xinlay may be useful to
11 the 30,000 men who will die this year from prostate cancer in America;

12 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Alaska State Legislature urges the United States
13 Congress and the United States Department of Health and Human Services, United States
14 Food and Drug Administration, to assist in the prompt approval of new drug applications for
15 targeted drugs for the treatment of prostate cancer.

16 **COPIES** of this resolution shall be sent to the Honorable George W. Bush, President
17 of the United States; the Honorable Michael O. Leavitt, United States Secretary of Health and
18 Human Services; the Honorable Lester Crawford, acting Commissioner of United States Food
19 and Drug Administration; the Honorable Ted Stevens and the Honorable Lisa Murkowski,
20 U.S. Senators, and the Honorable Don Young, U.S. Representative, members of the Alaska
21 delegation in Congress, and all other members of the 109th United States Congress.