

ALASKA LEGISLATURE COMMITTEE FILES 1997-1998 8672

9551 SENATE HEALTH EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES

188

Rep. Con Bunde, Chair
HESS Committee
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative,

I want to support the resolution that you are planning to sponsor recognizing the Alaska Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing, and Deaf-Blind Council (ADC) as a statewide advisory council.

This council is of great significance to individuals like myself since it will represent the voice of the communities for the Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing, and Deaf-Blind citizens of Alaska. The council will provide vital information concerning issues and statistics of our population.

This council is of no expense to the state government being that agencies serving these individuals share the costs to operate the council. I am a concerned citizen living in the state of Alaska, one of many anticipating the prompt adoption of this resolution.

Thank you for your support.

Shermain E. Clatt

Rep. Con Bunde, Chair
HESS Committee
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

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Thank you for your support.

Shari Maser

Shari Maser

Teacher Assistant for the Deaf

Clark Middle School

Anchorage

Rep. Con Bunde, Chair
HESS Committee
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

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Thank you for your support.

Daisy Cartwright

(I am Deaf.)

School Counselor

AK School for Deaf & Hard of Hearing Students

2220 Nichols St.

Anchorage, AK 99508

PH # 263-9209

Rep. Con Bunde, Chair
HESS Committee
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

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Thank you for your support.

Barbara Penrose

*Teacher, Hard of Hearing Program (Anchorage School District)
2220 Nichols St.
Anchorage, AK 99508
(907) 263-9222*

Robert D. Cantwell, Teacher of Deaf & Hard of Hearing Children
Alaska Early Intervention Hearing Resource
2220 Nichols Street
Anchorage, AK 99508
(907) 263-9267

Rep. Con Bunde, Chair
HESS Committee
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

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Thank you for your support.

Robert D. Cantwell, M.Ed.
Alaska Early Intervention Hearing Resource

Rep. Con Bunde, Chair
HESS Committee
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

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Thank you for your support.

Karen G. Hunt (Parent of Deaf child)
P.O. Box 100791
Anchorage, AK 99510-0791

Rep. Con Bunde, Chair
HESS Committee
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

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Thank you for your support.

Sulee Faso
Sulee Faso

Having a deaf brother, I am aware of the need and importance of such a council.

Rep. Con Bunde, Chair
HESS Committee
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

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Thank you for your support.

*Madeline N. Necten
Russian Jack Elementary
Spec. Ed. Teacher Assistant for the deaf
hm. 688-2693*

Rep. Con Bunde, Chair
HESS Committee
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

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Thank you for your support.

Alan Cartwright, Program Director
Center for Deaf Adults
731 Gambell St., Suite 200
Anchorage, AK 99501
276-3456 (Voice)
258-2232 (TTY)
279-0341 (Fax)

HCR

25

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 3/24/98

FURTHER:

DATE TURNED
IN TO OFFICE: 4/6/98

HESS Committee considered **SPONSOR SUBSTITUTE FOR HCR NO. 25**
Relating to Step Family Day.

and recommends:

- be replaced v. h. S CS SS HCR 25 (HES)
- adopt previous CS ()
- attached amendment(s)
- adopt Letter of Intent by Committee
- further referral to the Committee

- Senate Bill:**
- same title
 - new title
- House Bill:**
- same title
 - technical title
 - new: SCR#

SIGNING/DO PASS	DP	OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS	NR	DNP	AM
<i>Frew J. Simon</i>	✓				
<i>Lyle Green</i>	✓	<i>Lyle Green</i>			
CHAIR: <i>Gary White</i>	✓	CHAIR:			

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department	Date	Zero	Fiscal

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):*

Department	Date	Zero	Fiscal
<i>Leg Affairs</i>	<i>2/9/98</i>	✓	

APPROPRIATION -- no fiscal note

*include fiscal notes accompanying Governor's bill

FISCAL NOT

No: 1

STATE OF ALASKA
1998 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Bill Version: SSHCR 25
(H) Publish Date: 3/2/98

Revision Date: _____
Title: Relating to Step Family Day.
Sponsor: Representative Dyson
Requestor: House HESS

Department Affected: Legislative Affairs Agency
BRU: All

Component: All

COMPONENT SERIAL NO:

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03	FY 04
PERSONAL SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAVEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTUAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0	0	0	0	0	0

CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
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REVENUE FUND SOURCE	0	0	0	0	0	0
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER FUND SOURCE						
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

Estimate of current year impact: _____

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Zero fiscal impact.

Prepared By: Karla Schofield, Deputy Director
Division: Administrative Services

Phone: 465-3852
Date: 2/9/98

Approved By: Pamela A. Varni, Executive Director
Agency: Legislative Affairs Agency

Date: 2/9/98

SENATE CS FOR SS FOR HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 25(HES)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

TWENTIETH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE HEALTH, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Offered:

Referred:

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES DYSON, Croft

A RESOLUTION

1 Relating to Step Family Day.

2 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

3 WHEREAS it is estimated by the Stepfamily Foundation, Inc., that, by the year 2000,
4 at least half of all Americans will be members or relatives of families considered by the
5 foundation to be step families; and

6 WHEREAS step families provide loving relationships for thousands of Alaska parents
7 and children, enriching their lives and strengthening the fabric of our society; and

8 WHEREAS the legislature believes that the invaluable contributions that step families
9 have made to our state and to our nation should be recognized throughout the year but
10 especially on a day set aside for step families in particular; and

11 WHEREAS there is a nationwide movement to set aside September 16 as a special
12 day for recognition of the importance of step families in the United States;

13 BE IT RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature respectfully requests the
14 Governor to proclaim September 16 of each year as Step Family Day; and be it

15 FURTHER RESOLVED that the Alaska State Legislature urges schools, religious
16 organizations, community groups, and other public and private agencies and individuals to
17 observe September 16 with appropriate activities that honor the role of step families in our

1 society.

2 A **COPY** of this resolution shall be sent to the International Headquarters, Stepfamily
3 Foundation, Inc., 333 West End Avenue, New York, New York 10023.



Alaska State Legislature

- Interim (May-Dec) -
10928 Eagle River Rd. Suite 140
Eagle River, Alaska 99577
☎ (907) 694-6683
FAX (907) 694-1015

- Session (Jan-May) -
Alaska State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182
☎ (907) 465-2199
FAX (907) 465-4587

Toll free (800) 342-2199

REPRESENTATIVE FRED DYSON

SSHCR 25 Sponsor Statement

A Resolution relating to Step Families Day, September 16th

July 28 is National Parents Day and the structure of the American family is changing. Everyday in America, a new family is born through the marriage of couples who have children from another relationship.

According to The Stepfamily Foundation, Inc., of the 83.5 million households in America, close to 70% of them are stepfamilies. By the year 2000, according to the U.S. Census Bureau, more than half of Americans will be living in step-families versus the nuclear family.

This day would be a monumental observation for all the couples and their children who believe in marriage; who are committed to the success of their family, even though the nuclear family may have been dissolved by death or divorce.

The purpose of this resolution is to support and recognize the step family. The ultimate goal is to set aside a national day to recognize the men, women and children who are blended together by marriage. To encourage this move, each state has been asked to offer its support by creating a Step Families Day. So far, nearly half of all 50 states have committed September 16th, many others are considering legislation.

The Sponsor Substitute reflects only a change to the address found on the last two lines of the resolution.

- E-mail -
Representative_Fred_Dyson
@Legis.state.ak.us

- Internet -
<http://www.akrepublicans.org>

HCR

29

SENATE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 5/5/97

FURTHER:

DATE TURNED IN TO OFFICE: 5/7/97

HESS Committee considered HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 29

Supporting an increase in federal funding for prostate cancer research.

and recommends:

| | be replaced with _____ CS _____ (_____)

| | adopt previous _____ CS _____ (_____)

| | attached amendment(s)

| | adopt Letter of Intent by _____ Committee

| | further referral to the _____ Committee

Senate Bill:

same title

new title

House Bill:

same title

technical change

new: SCR# _____

SIGNING DO PASS	DP	OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS	NR	DNP	AM
<i>[Signature]</i>	✓				
<i>[Signature]</i>	✓				
<i>[Signature]</i>	✓				
CHAIR: <i>[Signature]</i>	✓				

NEW FISCAL NOTE(S):

Department Date Zero Fiscal

Leg. Affairs	4/7/97	Ø	→

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTE(S):*

Department Date Zero Fiscal

→			

| | APPROPRIATION -- no fiscal note

*include fiscal notes accompanying Governor's bill

REPRESENTATIVE KIM ELTON

MEMORANDUM

To: Senator Gary Wilken, Chairman
Senate HESS Committee

From: Representative Kim Elton

Date: May 5, 1997

RE: Request for a hearing for
HJR 29, Funding for Prostate Cancer Research

I am requesting a hearing for HJR 29. This resolution focuses on the need for increased federal funding for prostate cancer research. The resolution and my sponsor statement are attached.

I hope the resolution will pass this session. The resolution would strengthen the campaign by the National Prostate Cancer Coalition. This group plans to present a petition with a million signatures on it to President Clinton on Father's Day this year.

Thank you for your consideration.

Attachments

REPRESENTATIVE KIM ELTON

SPONSOR STATEMENT

House Joint Resolution 29

FUNDING FOR PROSTATE CANCER RESEARCH

Prostate cancer is the second most common form of cancer among males in the United States. It strikes one out of every five men. This year an estimated 334,500 men will be diagnosed with the disease; the cancer will cause over 41,800 deaths. As common as prostate cancer is, its causes, prevention and cures still elude the medical profession.

This resolution asks President Clinton to increase funding for prostate cancer research programs.

The resolution is inspired by a nation-wide campaign to eradicate the disease through research, education and public awareness. Cancer patients, advocates and supporting organizations (including the American Cancer Society) have formed the National Prostate Cancer Coalition. The group is collecting 1,000,000 signatures to present to the president on Father's Day, June 15.

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
1997 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

NO. _____
BILL VERSION: HJR 29
PUBLISH DATE: _____

Revision Date: _____
Title: Supporting an increase in federal
funding for prostate cancer research.
Sponsor: Representative Elton
Requestor: House HESS

Department Affected: Legislative Affairs Agency
BRU: All
Component: All

COMPONENT SERIAL NO:

Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 98	FY 99	FY 00	FY 01	FY 02	FY 03
PERSONAL SERVICES	0	0	0	0	0	0
TRAVEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
CONTRACTUAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
SUPPLIES	0	0	0	0	0	0
EQUIPMENT	0	0	0	0	0	0
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0	0	0	0	0	0

CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
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REVENUE FUND SOURCE	0	0	0	0	0	0
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	0	0	0	0	0	0
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER FUND SOURCE						
TOTAL	0	0	0	0	0	0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
PART-TIME	0	0	0	0	0	0
TEMPORARY	0	0	0	0	0	0

Estimate of current year impact: _____

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Zero fiscal impact.

Prepared By: Karla Schofield, Deputy Director *Karla Schofield* Phone: 465-3852
Division: Administrative Services Date: 4/7/97

Approved By: Pamela A. Varni, Executive Director *Pamela A. Varni*
Agency: Legislative Affairs Agency Date: 4/7/97

Distribution (by preparer): Leg. Finance, Legislative Sponsor, Requestor, OMB, Gov. , & Impacted Agency(ies).

April 7, 1997

The Honorable Kim Elton
Alaska House of Representatives
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182


Dear Representative Elton:

As a person prolonging their life with metastatic prostate cancer I wish to join you and your colleagues in sending President Clinton a resolution from the State of Alaska.

In 1997 approximately 290 Alaskan men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer. Nationwide approximately 334,500 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer. To date, prostate cancer makes up 43 percent of all male cancers with 14 percent responsible for actual deaths. This last statistic should give us an extreme sense of urgency to obtain increased funding for prostate cancer research. While medical treatment for this disease has improved there still is a high mortality rate. Finding a prevention and/or cure will save money as well as lives.

Again, I wish to join you and the Alaska State Legislative body in sending President Clinton and the United States Congress a message that A'aska is very serious about preventative health care and the need to eradicate prostate cancer by increasing funding for research.

Respectfully Submitted,



Michael H. Miller
6737 Gray Street
Juneau, Alaska 99801
(907) 586-2952

HOSPICE
& HOME CARE
of Juneau

3200 Hospital Dr. Suite 100 ♥ Juneau, Alaska 99801

(907) 463-3113 ♥ FAX 463-3835

TO: REPRESENTATIVE KIM ELTON

RE: HJR 29

FROM: JAN YOUNG, RN

I am writing this letter of support for HJR 29. I am a nurse who has worked with Prostate Cancer patients for many years and am convinced that patient and professional education, early detection and access to the most current treatment programs are vital to their health and survival.

The American Cancer Society has revised their priorities over the last few years to enable their volunteers to focus on key cancer education and prevention areas as well as target fundraising. The National ACS office has conducted and reviewed research on these priority areas to assure that the funding and education programs can actually make a difference in the outcome for these particular cancer patients. In November of 1996, the National ACS declared Prostate Cancer as it's newest priority. This is the most common cancer among American men, excluding skin cancer and is the second leading cause of cancer death in men, exceeded only by lung cancer. It is time for Americans to take a stand against this dreaded disease and dedicate time and financial support to research and treatment efforts.

Thank you for your help and support,

Jan Young J
Hospice and Home Care of Juneau Clinical Supervisor
ACS Western Pacific Division Board of Directors



WESTERN PACIFIC DIVISION, ALASKA AREA OFFICE

April 7, 1997

Representative Kim Elton
Alaska House of Representatives
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representative Elton,

It is estimated that in the United States 334,500 men will be newly diagnosed with prostate cancer. Mortality is estimated at 41,000 men. Alaska estimates approximately 290 newly diagnosed with an estimated mortality of 40 men to prostate cancer. There has been a significant increase in prostate cancer diagnosis over the past 35 years and continues to rise because of the increase in screening programs, but too many men are still unaware of the risk or are being diagnosed in late stages of the disease.

The American Cancer Society, as a founding member of the National Prostate Cancer Coalition, support all efforts to help in eradicating this prevalent disease. Through proper screening techniques it has been proven to decrease the mortality rate while increasing the rate of those being diagnosed at an earlier stage of the disease when cure rate and survival are significant.

The American Cancer Society supports your HJR 29 asking for President Clinton to support the signature petition which is asking for an increase in federal funding for prostate cancer research programs. With better funding the nationwide outreach, through education, awareness, and screening programs, will significantly impact the unnecessary loss due to prostate cancer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara J Gill".

Barbara J Gill
Medical Affairs/Early Detection Director
Alaska Area

FOR CANCER INFORMATION OR TO MAKE A MEMORIAL DONATION, CALL 1-800-ACS-2345
1057 W. FIREWEED LANE, STE 204, ANCHORAGE, AK 99503-1760
907-277-8696 1-800-478-9355 FAX 907-263-2073 <http://www.cancer.org>



April 2, 1997

The Honorable Kim Elton
Alaska House of Representatives
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

Dear Representative Elton:

On behalf of the American Cancer Society, Western Pacific Division, I want to thank you for giving us the opportunity to voice our enthusiastic support of HJR 29.

The American Cancer Society advocates for increased research funding of all cancers, but prostate cancer is of particular concern due to the high incidence rate and high mortality rate for this disease.

Prostate cancer costs our country billions of dollars in lost productivity and medical treatment. Finding a prevention and/or cure for this disease will, in the future, save money as well as lives.

We applaud your effort to send a message to President Clinton and the United States Congress to commit to eradicating prostate cancer by increasing funding for research and making prostate cancer a national priority.

Sincerely,

Deborah Spence Schiro
Program Manager, Detection
Western Pacific Division
American Cancer Society

April 6, 1997

Representative Kim Elton
State Capitol
Juneau, AK 99801-1182

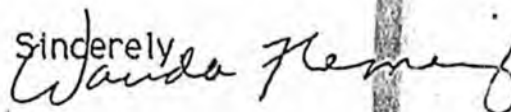
Dear Representative Elton:

I received your letter regarding your request for a letter of support regarding the recently introduced HJR 29 - Funding for Prostrate Cancer Research. I would be honored to write a brief statement of support.

As I am writing this today, I learned this morning of a close friend you has a tumor on his prostate and will be going in for surgery to determine if it is cancer. I strongly believe that funding should be made available for prostate cancer research programs. As with breast cancer - which strikes millions of women throughout the United States - I believe that there should be funding for both of these areas. It seems that we have worked on the cancer of the breast, but have put aside the fact that men throughout the United States are also stricken with their own type of cancer, that being prostate. I urge the Alaska Legislation to support House Joint Resolution 29.

I have been a member of the Juneau Unit of the American Cancer Society for three years and am presently serving as the unit president. I am a seven year survivor of colon cancer and am very interested in fighting all various types of cancer.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at my home 364-3617. I do wish the best to you with this resolution and getting the support it needs here in Alaska and nation wide.

Sincerely,

Wanda Fleming

cc: Mike Miller

Wanda J. Fleming
2192B-Lawson Creek Road
Douglas, Alaska 99824

WHAT ARE THE KEY STATISTICS ABOUT PROSTATE CANCER?

Prostate cancer is the most common cancer among American men, excluding skin cancers.

The American Cancer Society estimates that in 1997 some 334,500 new cases and 41,800 prostate cancer-related deaths will occur in the United States.

Prostate cancer is now the second leading cause of cancer death in men, exceeded only by lung cancer.

Prostate cancer accounts for 43% of all male cancers, and 14% of male cancer-related deaths.

Eighty-seven percent (87%) of men diagnosed with prostate cancer survive at least 5 years and 63% survive at least 10 years. Fifty-eight percent (58%) of all prostate cancers are discovered while still localized, and the 5-year relative survival rate for men with localized prostate cancer is 99%.

The number of prostate cancer cases has increased significantly over the past 35 years. This increase is most likely a result of widespread use of improved screening techniques. However, mortality data also suggest that there has been a small increase in the incidence of this disease due to the aging of the U.S. population.

Now that the prostate-specific antigen (PSA) blood test is widely used to screen for prostate cancer, it is expected that even more cases will be found in the future.

Other prostate cancer statistics

Approximately 1 out of every 5 American men will develop prostate cancer in their lifetime.

Prostate cancer incidence rates are 66% higher for African-American men than for white men. In fact, African-American men have the highest rate of prostate cancer in the world.

Prostate cancer is most common in North America and northwestern Europe. It is rare in Asia, Africa, Central America and South America.

Capital City Libraries		Health Reference Center		SearchBank	
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Article		Order List		Mark List	



Retrieve

The Columbia Univ. Coll. of Physicians & Surgeons Complete Home Medical Guide,
Edition 3, 1995 p271(2)



Link

Prostate Cancer (Cancers Common to Men) (Chapter 10). *Ihor S. Sawczuk;*
Ridwan Shabsigh; Carl A. Olsson; Karen H. Antman.

Full Text: COPYRIGHT 1995 Crown Publishers Inc.

(Prepared with Karen H. Antman, M.D.)

Definition

The prostate gland is the most common cancer site in men, with about 200,000 new cases a year. About 38,000 men die of prostate cancer each year, making it the second leading cause of cancer mortality in men (exceeded only by lung cancer). According to American Cancer Society statistics, the overall 5-year survival rate is 78 percent--a marked improvement from the 50 percent survival rate of the 1960s. About 58 percent of prostate cancer is diagnosed while still localized; in these patients, the 5-year survival rate climbs to 92 percent. In contrast, only 28 percent live 5 years if the cancer has metastasized.

Often early prostate cancer develops without symptoms; in other instances, it produces symptoms similar to those of benign prostate enlargement: a weak or interrupted urinary flow and occasionally blood in the urine or pain and burning during urination. Advanced prostate cancer characteristically spreads to the skeleton, resulting in bone pain, especially in the lower back.

Cause

Although the exact cause of prostate cancer is unknown, epidemiological studies point to a number of predisposing factors, including heredity, male sex hormones, infectious agents, environment, and diet.

Diagnosis

A rectal examination, in which a doctor inserts a gloved finger into the rectum to palpate the prostate for any unusual swelling or nodules, remains the most common screening examination for prostate cancer. However, the recent development of a blood test for prostate specific antigen (PSA) is a major advance in early detection of possible prostate cancer. PSA is a protein produced by the prostate gland; when blood tests detect higher than normal levels, prostatic enlargement is likely and further testing is indicated to rule out cancer. These

examinations may include an ultrasound examination of the prostate, but only a biopsy of suspicious tissue can diagnose or discount cancer.

Once prostate cancer has been diagnosed, additional tests are needed to determine whether it has metastasized. These usually include bone and CT scans. In some cases, some pelvic lymph nodes may be removed and studied for the presence of cancer.

Treatment

Treatment depends upon the stage of the disease. Patients with localized cancer are treated with surgical removal of the prostate (a radical prostatectomy) and/or external beam radiation therapy. In some cases, elderly men with very slow-growing disease may be monitored and treated only if the disease accelerates.

In the past, a radical prostatectomy was associated with a high incidence of impotence, resulting from severing of the pelvic nerves. A new procedure developed in 1982 to treat localized prostate cancer spares the nerves and often preserves sexual function. Even so, the patient will be infertile because the prostate is needed to make components of the seminal fluid that transports sperm. This new technique also makes it easier to reattach the urethra to the bladder, reducing the risk of urinary incontinence. In some patients, incontinence and/or impotence are temporary problems, although it may take a year to regain full function.

Radiation therapy is an alternative to surgery, especially for patients who are too ill or are unwilling to undergo an operation. Typically, the radiation is delivered by an external beam of high-energy rays. Alternatively, radioactive seeds may be inserted into the prostate gland to destroy cancer cells. This form of radiation therapy may be combined with cryosurgery, the use of a freezing technique.

Advanced cancer requires systemic treatment. Because 80 percent of prostate cancers are stimulated by testosterone, hormone therapy to eliminate testosterone is the best form of palliation. This may be achieved by surgical removal of the testes, or by complete androgen blockade. This can be achieved by administering luteinizing-hormone releasing hormone (LHRH), a substance that blocks the chemical signals to produce testosterone from the pituitary to the testes and with an anti-androgen to block testosterone formed from other sites. Estrogen, the major female sex hormone, has a similar effect. All of the treatments cause significant side effects, including loss of libido and impotence. Estrogen can also cause breast swelling, fluid retention, and an increased risk of cardiovascular disease.

Prevention

A low-fat diet has been advocated as preventive, but there is no scientific proof that this is so. To date, the best approach to prevention remains annual screening to detect the disease while it is confined to the prostate.

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WESTERN PACIFIC DIVISION, ALASKA AREA OFFICE

March 3, 1997

Rep. Ken Elton
Attn: Odette Foster

I've included Prostate Cancer statistics, a copy of the National Prostate Cancer Coalition (NPCC) petition. The American Cancer Society is a member of the NPCC.

A petition is being circulated, asking that the US Congress commit to increase funding to help in eradicating prostate cancer through research programs. The National office is requesting that we aim to obtain at least 334,000 signatures to be presented on March 17 at a special ceremony in Washington D.C. A second deadline is Father's Day in June, at which time the NPCC hopes to have collected 1,000,000 signatures, to present at a ceremony yet to be planned.

I have circulated petition through the ACS statewide community volunteers, but most of the information had not reached us until February which does not allow much time for March 17th deadline.

If you are in need of further assistance please contact me at (907) 263-2077.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Barbara J Gill".

Barbara J Gill
Medical Affairs/Early Detection Director

FOR CANCER INFORMATION OR TO MAKE A MEMORIAL DONATION, CALL 1-800-ACS-2345
1057 W. FIREWEED LANE, STE 204, ANCHORAGE, AK 99503-1760
907-277-8696 1-800-478-9355 FAX 907-263-2073 <http://www.cancer.org>