

RESOLUTION NO. 150117

Expressing Council support of the Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Research and Education Act of 2015.

WHEREAS, breast cancer accounts for 1 in 4 cancer diagnoses among women in this country of which the survival rate has increased to 90 percent for White women and 78 percent for African-American women; and

WHEREAS, African-American women are more likely to be diagnosed with larger tumors and more advanced stages of breast cancer despite a lower incidence rate; and

WHEREAS, early detection for breast cancer increases survival rates for breast cancer, as evidenced by a 5-year relative survival rate of 98 percent for breast cancers that are discovered before the cancer spreads beyond the breast, compared to 23 percent for stage IV breast cancers; and

WHEREAS, triple-negative breast cancer is a term used to describe breast cancers whose cells do not have estrogen receptors and progesterone receptors, and do not have an excess of the HER2 protein on their sources of which it is estimated that between 10 and 20 percent of female breast cancer patients are diagnosed with triple-negative breast cancer, and studies indicate the prevalence of triple-negative breast cancer is much higher; and

WHEREAS, triple-negative breast cancer most commonly affects African-American women, followed by Hispanic women; and

WHEREAS, triple-negative breast cancer is a very aggressive form of cancer which affects women under the age of 50 across all racial and socioeconomic backgrounds; and

WHEREAS, African-American women are 3 times more likely to develop triple-negative breast cancer than White women; and

WHEREAS, triple-negative breast cancer tends to grow and spread more quickly than most other types of breast cancer; and

WHEREAS, like other forms of breast cancer, triple-negative breast cancer is treated with surgery, radiation therapy, or chemotherapy; and

WHEREAS, early-stage detection of triple-negative breast cancer is the key to survival because the tumor cells lack certain receptors, and neither hormone therapy nor drugs that target these receptors are effective against these cancers, therefore, early detection and education is vital; and

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WHEREAS, current research and available data do not provide adequate information on (A) the rates of prevalence and incidence of triple-negative breast cancer in African-American, Hispanic, and other minority women; (B) the costs associated with treating triple-negative breast cancer; and (C) the methods by which triple-negative breast cancer may be prevented or cured in these women; NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF KANSAS CITY:

That the Mayor and Council express its support for the passage and implementation of the Triple-Negative Breast Cancer Research and Education Act of 2015 sponsored by Representative Shelia Jackson Lee (TX), introduced on January 9, 2015 and sent to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health.
