

Senate Resolution 396

By: Senators Watson of the 1st, Burke of the 11th, Kirkpatrick of the 32nd, Hatchett of the 50th and Hufstetler of the 52nd

A RESOLUTION

- 1 Recognizing January 2022 as Cervical Health Awareness Month, acknowledging that
2 cervical cancer is preventable through regular screening, and encouraging all women to
3 schedule well-woman exams and Pap+HPV (co-testing) cervical cancer screening; and for
4 other purposes.
- 5 WHEREAS, since the introduction of the life-saving Pap test in the 1940s, cervical cancer
6 rates have steadily declined in the United States; and
- 7 WHEREAS, however, cervical cancer continues to affect women at an alarming rate. Every
8 hour, a woman is diagnosed with cervical cancer, and every two hours a woman will die of
9 this disease; and
- 10 WHEREAS, in 2021, there were an estimated 14,480 new cases and 4,290 deaths from
11 cervical cancer; and
- 12 WHEREAS, cervical cancer is not only treatable but can be preventable through regular
13 screening; and

14 WHEREAS, Pap+HPV (co-testing) is the most widely adopted and preferred method for
15 cervical cancer screening in the United States, and recent publications representative of
16 clinical practice in the United States have shown that co-testing misses the fewest
17 cancer/precursors to cancer and also indicate that 95 percent of cervical cancers have been
18 detected by co-testing; and

19 WHEREAS, racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic inequalities still exist, exacerbating the impact
20 of cervical cancer on Black and Hispanic women; and

21 WHEREAS, Black women in the United States are twice as likely to die of cervical cancer
22 than are white women and are more likely to be diagnosed with advanced cervical cancer
23 than any other racial group, and Hispanic women are 30 percent more likely to die of cervical
24 cancer than are white women; and

25 WHEREAS, COVID-19 has widened health disparities. In a recent report, 46 percent of
26 women indicated they put off preventative care and 32 percent skipped recommended
27 medical tests and screenings.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE that the members of this body
29 recognize January 2022 as Cervical Health Awareness Month, acknowledge that cervical
30 cancer is preventable through regular screening, and encourage all women to schedule
31 well-woman exams and Pap+HPV (co-testing) cervical cancer screening.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of the Senate is authorized and directed
33 to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the public and the
34 press.