
2019 ZERO Prostate Cancer Summit Legislative Requests

Prostate Cancer Research at DoD – The Prostate Cancer Research Program (PCRP) at the Department of Defense (DoD) is the most impactful federally funded prostate cancer research program, employing a unique structure to set annual goals addressing gaps in understanding of diagnosis and treatment of the disease. This high-risk, high-reward translational approach, which differs from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), which focus on basic research, has resulted in three new treatments for advanced prostate cancer and one advanced diagnostic in the last seven years. In recent years, there have been efforts in Congress, primarily driven by budget concerns, to eliminate this highly effective program. We urge Congress to support \$110M in funding for the PCRP and recognize prostate cancer as a militarily relevant disease in the FY 2020 defense appropriations bill. We further request that Congress fight any effort to undermine or eliminate the PCRP in the National Defense Authorization Act. **We ask House members to please sign the Bishop-King dear colleague letter to the House Appropriations Committee and we ask Senate members to please sign the Crapo-Menendez dear colleague letter to the Senate Appropriations Committee supporting funding for the PCRP program.**

Support PSA Screening for African-American & High-Risk Men - The United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) currently determines which preventive services, including cancer screening, are covered without copays by private insurance. The USPSTF's current recommendation for PSA screening to detect prostate cancer does not adequately protect men who are at the highest risk for developing and dying from the disease. Because this recommendation is tied to insurance coverage, significant barriers exist for at-risk men to be screened for prostate cancer. Rep. Bobby Rush (D-IL) is drafting legislation that would ensure screening coverage is provided to African-American men and men with a family history of prostate cancer regardless of the USPSTF recommendation for these populations. **We ask for your support and cosponsorship of the legislation when introduced.**

Protect Prostate Cancer Surveillance and Education & Support Additional Prostate Cancer Outreach to High-Risk Men – The Labor-HHS-Education appropriations bills have maintained \$13.2M in funding for CDC prostate cancer activities in the last four years, and we hope that support for the CDC will continue. We also would like Congress to include an additional \$2M to support outreach to African-American and other high-risk men, including the creation of a Prostate Cancer Resource Center at the CDC. **We ask that Members include the following Labor-HHS report language in their individual request letters to the Appropriations Committee.**

(Over)

Prostate Cancer.— The Committee is troubled by the recent rise in prostate cancer deaths and strongly supports the CDC’s work to increase the public’s awareness of prostate cancer risks, screening and treatment and improve surveillance of this disease, which is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in men and the second leading cause of cancer deaths in men. The Committee rejects the Administration’s proposal to eliminate funding for prostate cancer activities within the Comprehensive Cancer Control Program and provides \$13,205,000 for this ongoing work. The Committee also recommends an additional \$2,000,000 for a new initiative to support efforts to increase outreach and education among high-risk men, especially African-American men, who are two times more likely to die from prostate cancer than white men.

