

SENATE RESOLUTION

8616

By Senator Rivers

1 WHEREAS, According to the American Cancer Society, 235,760
2 Americans will be newly diagnosed with lung cancer this year and an
3 estimated 7,780 Washington residents alone will be diagnosed with the
4 disease. Lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer deaths in the
5 United States with nearly half of cases not detected until it is too
6 late, and the survival rate is only six percent; and

7 WHEREAS, Any person is at risk for developing lung cancer, as
8 there are many other risk factors aside from smoking including family
9 history, environmental causes, and other lifestyle factors. Each
10 year, tens of thousands of nonsmokers are diagnosed with lung cancer;
11 and

12 WHEREAS, The screening and early detection of lung cancer are
13 vital to the health and well-being of Washington residents; and

14 WHEREAS, The COVID-19 pandemic has led many patients to postpone
15 regular health appointments, meaning that screening and early
16 detection rates of lung cancer will be lower than years prior; and

17 WHEREAS, Research shows that early detection via low-dose CT
18 screening can decrease lung cancer mortality by 14 to 20 percent
19 among high-risk populations, however only 6.1 percent of high-risk
20 Washington residents actually receive these potentially life-saving
21 screenings; and

1 WHEREAS, This year marks the 50th anniversary of passing the
2 National Cancer Act, yet screening for and education of lung cancer
3 continues to be alarmingly low compared to other forms of cancer;

4 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Washington State Senate
5 encourage Washington residents to learn about their risk for lung
6 cancer, talk to their health care provider about recommended lung
7 cancer screenings, and be screened with low-dose CT scans as
8 appropriate.

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