



H.Res. 257 - Supporting the goals and ideals of Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month

Floor Situation

H.Res. 257 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Rep. Todd Platts (R-PA) on May 14, 2007. The bill was ordered to be reported from the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, by voice vote, on June 12, 2007.

H.Res. 257 is expected to be considered on the floor on September 10, 2007.

Summary

H.Res. 257 resolves that the House of Representatives supports the goals and ideals of Pancreatic Cancer Awareness month, which include finding a cure and early detection methods.

Background

Over 37,170 people will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer this year in the United States. Pancreatic Cancer is the fourth most common cause of cancer death in the United States. 75 percent of pancreatic cancer patients die within the first year of their diagnosis, and only 5 percent survive more than 5 years, making pancreatic cancer the deadliest of any cancer. There have been no significant improvements in survival rates in the last 25 years, and pancreatic cancer research is still in the earliest scientific stages.

According to the Mayo Clinic:

“Pancreatic cancer is one of the most serious of cancers. It develops when cancerous cells form in the tissues of your pancreas — a large organ that lies horizontally behind the lower part of your stomach. Your pancreas secretes enzymes that aid digestion and hormones that help regulate the metabolism of carbohydrates.

“Pancreatic cancer spreads rapidly and is seldom detected in its early stages, which is a major reason why it's a leading cause of cancer death. Signs and symptoms may not appear until the disease is quite advanced. By that time, the cancer is likely to have spread to other parts of the body and surgical removal is no longer possible.

“For years, little was known about pancreatic cancer. But researchers are beginning to understand the genetic basis of the disease — knowledge that may eventually lead to new and better treatments. Just as important, you may be able to reduce your risk of pancreatic cancer with some lifestyle changes.”

[\(The Mayo Clinic.com: Pancreatic Cancer\)](#)

Cost

This legislation has not been scored by the Congressional Budget Office (CBO).

Staff Contact

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