

H. Res. 576

In the House of Representatives, U.S.,

September 27, 2000.

Whereas an estimated 12,400 children will be diagnosed with cancer in the year 2000;

Whereas cancer is the leading cause of death by disease in children under age 15;

Whereas an estimated 2,300 children will die from cancer in the year 2000;

Whereas the incidence of cancer among children in the United States is rising by about one percent each year;

Whereas 1 in every 330 Americans develops cancer before age 20;

Whereas approximately 8 percent of deaths of those between 1 and 19 years old are caused by cancer;

Whereas a number of opportunities for childhood cancer research remain unfunded or underfunded;

Whereas limited resources for childhood cancer research hinder the recruitment of investigators and physicians to pediatric oncology;

Whereas peer-reviewed clinical trials are the standard of care for pediatrics and have improved cancer survival rates among children; and

Whereas a recent study indicates that, based on parental reports, 89 percent of children with cancer experienced substantial suffering in the last month of life: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That it is the sense of the House of Representatives that Congress should support—

(1) public and private sector efforts to promote awareness about the incidence of cancer among children, the signs and symptoms of cancer in children, and treatment options;

(2) increased public and private investment in childhood cancer research to improve prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and long-term survival;

(3) policies that provide incentives to encourage medical trainees and investigators to enter the field of pediatric oncology;

(4) policies that provide incentives to encourage the development of drugs and biologics designed to treat pediatric cancers;

(5) policies that encourage participation in clinical trials; and

(6) medical education curricula designed to improve pain management for cancer patients.

Attest:

Clerk.