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September 18, 2014

## RE: Request to Support Senate Resolution Designating September 2014 as "National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month"

Dear Senator:

I write on behalf of the American Urological Association (AUA) to urge your support for passage of a resolution introduced by Senator Jeff Sessions designating September 2014 as "National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month" when it is hotlined. The AUA represents more than 20,000 urologists and urological professionals who have been transforming and improving urological care for over 100 years. Our mission is to promote the highest standards of urological clinical care through education, research and the formulation of health care policy.

The AUA strongly supports this resolution which declares that steps should be taken to raise awareness about the importance of prostate cancer screening methods and treatments, to increase prostate cancer research funding, and to improve access to and quality of health care services for detecting and treating prostate cancer. It also calls for the nation to take an active role in the promotion of prostate cancer awareness and the fight to end the devastating effects of prostate cancer.

We urge the Senate to secure passage of this important resolution prior to recessing at the end of this week. Prostate cancer is the second-leading cause of cancer deaths among men in the United States and a significant health-care problem due to its high incidence. It is estimated that in the U.S., there will be more than 230,000 new cases and 29,000 deaths from prostate cancer in 2014. Although one in six men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in their lifetime, the odds increase to one in five if they are African American, and one in three if they have a family history.

Educating people about prostate cancer and early detection strategies is crucial to saving the lives of these men, and ongoing research can improve prostate cancer prevention, early detection, and treatment. We applaud Senator Jeff Sessions and encourage you to join him in supporting this resolution to further prostate cancer awareness. To sign on as a cosponsor or for more information, please contact Mary Blanche Hankey at 202-224-4124 or via email at [MaryBlanche\\_Hankey@sessions.senate.gov](mailto:MaryBlanche_Hankey@sessions.senate.gov).

Sincerely,

David F. Penson, MD, MPH  
Chair, Public Policy Committee

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