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## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 48

Offered January 13, 2016

Prefiled January 6, 2016

*Designating September, in 2016 and in each succeeding year, as Blood Cancer Awareness Month in Virginia.*

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Patron—Black

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Referred to Committee on Rules

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WHEREAS, more than 1,100,000 people in the United States are living with or are in remission from leukemia, lymphoma, myeloma, or another form of blood cancer, with approximately 150,000 new cases diagnosed each year; and

WHEREAS, forms of blood cancer are responsible for more than 50,000 deaths in the United States annually, and survivors may experience long-term effects of treatment, potentially requiring lifelong follow-up care; and

WHEREAS, investments in cancer research and control have contributed to significant progress in understanding and treating some blood cancers, increasing survival rates for many blood cancer patients; and

WHEREAS, continued investment and innovation is necessary to promptly diagnose and effectively and safely treat all blood cancers; nonprofit and voluntary health organizations exist to find cures and ensure access to treatment for blood cancer patients; and

WHEREAS, the Virginia chapter of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society maintains offices in Richmond and Norfolk to better serve blood cancer patients and their families in the Commonwealth; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth is committed to the study, prevention, and eradication of blood cancers, and all Virginians are encouraged to support patients and their families, as well as efforts to better understand and find cures for the diseases; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Delegates concurring, That the General Assembly designate September, in 2016 and in each succeeding year, as Blood Cancer Awareness Month in Virginia; and, be it

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit a copy of this resolution to the Virginia chapter of the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society so that members of the organization may be apprised of the sense of the General Assembly of Virginia in this matter; and, be it

RESOLVED FINALLY, That the Clerk of the Senate post the designation of this month on the General Assembly's website.

INTRODUCED

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