

## THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

### RESOLUTION SUPPORTING COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CONTROL

#### **Resolution Summary**

Cancer is the second leading cause of death in the United States. The disease continues to exact a staggering toll both in terms of human suffering and health care costs. A comprehensive state approach to prevention and control efforts brings together existing resources and programs under a common plan. All 50 states and many territories have taken steps toward planning comprehensive approaches; many already are implementing plans.

Comprehensive cancer control programs change the traditional categorical approach where programs addressed specific forms of cancer, such as lung or colorectal cancer, or risk factors such as smoking or sun exposure. Planning was done within program silos, and there was sometimes competition rather than partnership with other programs. For example, states implemented successful breast and cervical cancer prevention and early detection programs. They also launched effective public awareness campaigns about the risks of cancer from smoking. However, states missed opportunities to maximize and coordinate resources of these programs in fighting the overall challenge of cancer.

The comprehensive approach seeks to get all the cancer stakeholders – including state programs and private and non-profit partners – to collaborate on an ongoing basis, maximize the impact of limited resources and do a better job of saving lives and preventing cancer. States are using this approach to weave together their cancer efforts and are seeing results. Some states have marshaled the power of dozens of state cancer organizations to improve screening rates. Some are making sure that everyone can afford cancer treatments. Others are establishing close partnerships among programs that pay for cancer prevention and treatment and community-based clinics to make sure that people in medically underserved areas have access to care. Others are embarking on effective public education campaigns about risk factors – such as smoking, obesity, physical activity, nutrition or excessive alcohol consumption – that are important to preventing many types of cancer. Through these efforts states are positioning themselves to do a more effective job of preventing and treating cancer.

#### **Additional Resource Information**

1. CDC's National Comprehensive Cancer Control Program (NCCCP):
  - a. Home: <http://www.cdc.gov/cancer/ncccp/>
  - b. State-by-state program information:  
<http://apps.nccd.cdc.gov/cancercontacts/ncccp/contacts.asp>
2. CSG's Healthy States Web page:  
<http://www.healthystates.csg.org/Public+Health+Issues/Cancer>
3. Cancer Control Planet: <http://cancercontrolplanet.cancer.gov/>
4. CancerPlan.org Home:  
<http://www.cancerplan.org/portal/server.pt?space=CommunityPage&cached=true&parent>

[name=Login&parentid=1&in\\_hi\\_userid=2&control=SetCommunity&CommunityID=201&PageID=0](#)

## **Management Directives**

**Management Directive #1:** Support state efforts to fund and implement state comprehensive cancer control plans.

**Management Directive #2:** CSG staff will post the approved resolution on CSG's Web site and make it available through CSG's regular communication venues at the state and local level to ensure its distribution to the state government and policy community.

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### RESOLUTION SUPPORTING COMPREHENSIVE CANCER CONTROL

**WHEREAS**, cancer is the second leading cause of death in the United States;

**WHEREAS**, in 2008, about 1.4 million new cases of cancer will be diagnosed, and nearly 560,000 Americans – about 1,500 people a day – will die of the disease;

**WHEREAS**, in 2007, the overall cost of cancer in the United States was \$ 219 billion – \$89 billion for direct medical costs, \$18 billion for lost worker productivity due to illness and \$112 billion for lost worker productivity because of premature death;

**WHEREAS**, the significant growth of cancer prevention and control programs within public health agencies has resulted in the recognition that improved coordination of cancer control activities within states is essential to maximizing resources and achieving desired cancer control outcomes;

**WHEREAS**, coordination of state cancer control activities, known as comprehensive cancer control (CCC), results in many benefits including increased efficiency for delivering public health messages and services to the public;

**WHEREAS**, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC's) National Comprehensive Cancer Control Program (NCCCCP) is a national resource for supporting comprehensive cancer control efforts;

**WHEREAS**, since 1998, the number of programs pursuing comprehensive approaches to cancer control has grown from 6 to include health agencies in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, 7 territories and 7 tribal groups, and with this support, they continue to establish broad based CCC coalitions, assess the burden of cancer, determine priorities for cancer prevention and control, and develop and implement CCC plans;

**WHEREAS**, cancer plans are the stepping stones for putting comprehensive cancer control programs into action, where each state, territory or tribal health agency develops a cancer plan to address its unique cancer burden;

**WHEREAS**, state, territory or tribal health agencies implementing cancer plans integrate expertise and efforts from many disciplines: basic and applied research, evaluation, health education, program development, public policy, surveillance, clinical services, and health communications; and

**WHEREAS**, the state, territory and tribal health agencies currently do not have adequate funding and resources to support their cancer plans from development and planning through implementation and into action;

**BE IT NOW THEREFORE RESOLVED**, that The Council of State Governments encourages state legislators and other elected leaders to support and promote state-wide efforts to develop and implement their state's comprehensive cancer control plan.

Adopted this 31<sup>st</sup> Day of May, 2008 at the  
CSG 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration  
in Lexington, Kentucky

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The signature on the left is for Governor M. Jodi Rell, and the signature on the right is for Representative Kim Koppelman. Both signatures are written in a cursive, flowing style.

Governor M. Jodi Rell

Representative Kim Koppelman

2008 CSG President

2008 CSG Chair