



Mets Mavericks



September 3, 2010

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Elijah Cummings
2235 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Boxer and Congressman Cummings:

As leading organizations in prostate cancer advocacy, we are writing to thank you for your leadership in introducing the Prostate Research, Imaging, and Men's Education Act (PRIME Act). If enacted, we are convinced that this legislation will serve as a "Manhattan Project" for transforming patient care for men and ending prostate cancer crisis. We are pleased that the PRIME Act proposes increased government investment in education and research required to create accurate, life-saving diagnostic tools for screening, early detection and minimally-invasive treatment of prostate cancer.

Your legislation (S. 756/H.R. 4756) is critically needed because it authorizes funding over the next five years for the National Institutes of Health and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services for the development and evaluation of improved in vitro (blood and urinary) testing for mass screening, and prostate cancer imaging technologies for improved early detection and minimally-invasive treatment. We believe the PRIME Act will replicate for prostate care what the U.S. Government successfully did in the 1990's to stimulate development of digital breast imaging technologies, which led to life-saving breakthroughs in early detection and minimally-invasive lumpectomy of breast cancer. The PRIME Act proposes a total of \$650 million over 5 years, which represents only about 2% of the health care costs that will be wasted over that period of time due to the lack of accurate diagnostic tools causing wide-spread unnecessary biopsies and unnecessary treatment. Indeed, this effort will more than pay for itself, since accurate diagnosis of prostate cancer could reduce health care costs by at least \$5 billion per year through elimination of unnecessary biopsies and surgeries.

We are grateful that you have recognized prostate cancer as a major public health issues. As you know, this dreadful disease now strikes at least one in six men, with African-American men having a 60% higher incidence and 150% higher mortality rates than Caucasian men. Currently, men do not have prostate imaging technologies comparable to state-of-the-art life-saving mammography.

This work is of vital importance to men around the world and we stand ready to assist you in seeking Congressional approval of the PRIME Act.

Sincerely,

Faina Shtern, MD
President and CEO
AdMeTech Foundation
Boston, MA 02114

John Shearron
Patient Advocate
Mets Mavericks
Gurnee, IL 60031

Merel Nissenberg
President
National Alliance of State Prostate
Cancer Coalitions (NASPCC)
La Jolla, CA 92037

Richard H. Profit, Jr.
President and Board Member
Patient Advocates for Advanced
Cancer Treatments, Inc. (PAACT)
Grand Rapids, MI 49514

E. Michael D. Scott
Co-Founder and President
Prostate Cancer International (PCI)
Virginia Beach, VA 23466

Thomas Farrington
Founder and President
Prostate Health Education
Network (PHEN)
Quincy, MA 02169

Thomas Kirk
President and CEO
Us TOO International
Downers Grove, IL 60515



The Project to End Prostate Cancer

10 G Street NE, Suite 601
Washington, DC 20002
P 202 463 9455
F 571 257 8559
ZeroCancer.org

September 8, 2010

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
United State Senate
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Elijah Cummings
United States House of Representatives
2235 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Boxer and Congressman Cummings:

As a leading organization in prostate cancer advocacy, we are writing to thank you for your leadership in introducing the Prostate Research, Imaging, and Men's Education Act (PRIME Act). If enacted, we are convinced that this legislation will serve as a "Manhattan Project" for transforming patient care for men and ending prostate cancer crisis. We are pleased that the PRIME Act proposes increased government investment in education and research required to create accurate, life-saving diagnostic tools for screening, early detection and minimally-invasive treatment of prostate cancer.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kevin S. Johnson".

Kevin S. Johnson
Sr. Vice President, Public Policy

September 3, 2010

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Elijah Cummings
2235 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Boxer and Congressman Cummings:

On behalf of millions of American men and their families, Men's Health Network (MHN) is writing to praise your leadership with regard to the introduction of S.756 and H.R. 4756, the Prostate Research, Imaging, and Men's Education Act (PRIME Act of 2010). The actions described in this legislation will provide resources to significantly advance research, education, awareness, and treatment of prostate cancer.

Men's Health Network (MHN) is a national non-profit organization whose mission is to reach men and their families where they live, work, play, and pray with health prevention messages and tools, screening programs, educational materials, advocacy opportunities, and patient navigation. As H.R. 4756 states, "prostate cancer has reached epidemic proportions"... "common available methods of detecting prostate cancer (PSA blood test and physical exams) are not foolproof." Given the prevalence of prostate cancer, especially in the African-American population, MHN applauds the PRIME Act's thoughtful and consequential components.

- Expanding and encouraging pioneering imaging research through intergovernmental cooperation, grant making, and public-private partnerships to create a non-invasive, affordable diagnostic technology;
- Appropriating resources for a national campaign around prostate cancer education and awareness, utilizing government and non-profit resources;
- Designating means to improve blood testing for prostate cancer; and
- Addressing racial disparities with regard to incidences and mortality rates of prostate cancer as well as access to and participation in screenings and treatments;

MHN supports these targeted actions and believes engaging men and their families with innovative diagnostic methods and targeted education campaigns will lead to a lower prostate cancer mortality rate. Millions of men and their families will benefit from necessary funding, education, and research to combat the personal, social, and economic harms associated with prostate cancer. We thank you for your engagement and solicitous action regarding this public health crisis.

Respectfully,

Scott Williams
Vice President
Men's Health Network



PROSTATE CANCER RESEARCH INSTITUTE
5777 W. Century Boulevard, Suite 800, Los Angeles, CA 90045
(310) 743-2116 • Fax (310) 743-2113 • Web site: www.pcri.org

Prostate Cancer Research Institute is a 501(c) (3) not-for-profit public charity

Working together for a cure

August 4, 2010

The Honorable Barbara Boxer
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Elijah Cummings
2235 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator Boxer and Congressman Cummings:

As the leading organization in prostate cancer advocacy, we are writing to thank you for your leadership in introducing the Prostate Research, Imaging, and Men's Education Act (PRIME Act). If enacted, we are convinced that this legislation will serve as a "Manhattan Project" for transforming patient care for men and ending prostate cancer crisis. We are pleased that the PRIME Act proposes increased government investment in education and research required to create accurate, life-saving diagnostic tools for screening, early detection and minimally-invasive treatment of prostate cancer.

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We are grateful that you have recognized prostate cancer as a major public health issues. As you know, this dreadful disease now strikes at least one in six men, with African-American men having a 60% higher incidence and 250% higher mortality rates than Caucasian men. Currently, men do not have prostate imaging technologies comparable to state-of-the-art life-saving mammography. The PRIME Act is an excellent response to the recent large-scale NCI-funded clinical trials demonstrating that the most common available methods of detecting prostate cancer (PSA blood test and physical exams) do not save lives while causing harm due to over-diagnosis and over-treatment.

This work is of vital importance to men around the world and we stand ready to assist you in seeking Congressional approval of the PRIME Act.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Scholz".

Mark Scholz, MD
MEDICAL DIRECTOR, PROSTATE ONCOLOGY SPECIALISTS, INC., Marina del Rey, CA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, PROSTATE CANCER RESEARCH INSTITUTE, Los Angeles, CA
CLINICAL ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF MEDICINE, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA-DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL ONCOLOGY