

**CHAPTER 17**  
**( SCR 171 )**

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION establishing the Childhood Cancer Caucus within the Kentucky General Assembly.

WHEREAS, according to the National Cancer Institute, childhood cancer is the leading cause of death by disease past infancy in children in the United States; and

WHEREAS, an estimated 1 in 285 children in the United States will be diagnosed with cancer by their 20th birthday; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that 42 children per day or 15,270 children and adolescents ages 0 to 19 years will be diagnosed with cancer in 2017 in the United States; and

WHEREAS, an estimated two-thirds of childhood cancer patients will have chronic health conditions as a result of their treatment toxicity, with one-quarter being classified as severe to life-threatening; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that Kentucky has a 42% higher rate of pediatric brain tumors than other areas of the country; and

WHEREAS, in the last 20 years, only four new drugs have been approved by the federal Food and Drug Administration to specifically treat childhood cancer; and

WHEREAS, the National Cancer Institute recognizes the unique research needs of childhood cancer and the associated need for increased funding to carry this out; and

WHEREAS, more must be done to raise awareness and find cures for this deadly disease that affects so many children and their families; and

WHEREAS, a legislative caucus dedicated to childhood cancer will allow the General Assembly to take a leading role in prioritizing awareness and research of this urgent need for Kentucky children;

NOW, THEREFORE,

Be it resolved by the Senate of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, the House of Representatives concurring therein:

➔Section 1. There is hereby established a nonpartisan, bicameral caucus within the Kentucky General Assembly to be called the Childhood Cancer Caucus.

➔Section 2. The Childhood Cancer Caucus shall work to promote awareness and support for Kentucky children diagnosed with cancer that focuses on collaboration and innovation for more targeted treatments with less toxicity. The caucus shall work closely with the Kentucky Pediatric Cancer Research Trust Fund and other groups and organizations based in Kentucky to achieve its goals.

➔Section 3. It is respectfully requested that the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives support the creation of the Childhood Cancer Caucus by encouraging members of each chamber to participate in the caucus.

**Signed by Governor March 20, 2018.**