

SUBJECT: Designating May 24 as Lung Cancer Awareness Day

COMMITTEE: Culture, Recreation and Tourism — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 5 ayes — Guillen, Frullo, Larson, Murr, Smith

0 nays

2 absent — Dukes, Márquez

WITNESSES: For — Angie McClure, American Lung Association in Texas;
(*Registered, but did not testify:* Cam Scott, American Cancer Society
Cancer Action Network; Richard Hernandez, ResCare, Inc.; Melody
Chatelle)

Against — None

DIGEST: HB 369 would designate May 24 as Lung Cancer Awareness Day. This designation would encourage Texans to learn about lung cancer, including the prevalence of lung cancer, the statistical risks of developing the disease, behavior that increases the risk of contracting lung cancer, ways to increase early diagnosis and treatment of the disease, and ways to reduce the prevalence of the disease. Lung Cancer Awareness Day would be regularly observed through appropriate programs and activities.

The bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2015.

SUPPORTERS SAY: HB 369 would promote awareness of lung cancer, which is the number-one cause of cancer deaths among both men and women in the United States — more than prostate, breast, and colon cancers combined. The five-year survival rate for lung cancer is 18 percent, but the survival rate can rise to 54 percent with early detection, which could be facilitated by more awareness of the disease.

OPPONENTS
SAY:

No apparent opposition.