

# House Resolution 105 - Introduced

## HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 105

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1 A Resolution designating November 2024 as Lung Cancer  
2 Awareness Month.

3 WHEREAS, in 1904, Dr. Edward Livingston Trudeau,  
4 a public health pioneer, believing that the combined  
5 efforts of physicians and laypersons working together  
6 against death and disease, could be more effective in  
7 the fight against tuberculosis, the leading cause of  
8 death in the United States at the time, co-founded  
9 the National Association for the Study and Prevention  
10 of Tuberculosis, later known as the American Lung  
11 Association; and

12 WHEREAS, the American Lung Association, recognizing  
13 the importance of education, advocacy, and the funding  
14 of research, as well as the power of people and  
15 communities in addressing critical public health  
16 and lung health issues, was instrumental in largely  
17 controlling tuberculosis in the United States; and

18 WHEREAS, just as tuberculosis was a great health  
19 threat in the early 20th century, lung cancer is now  
20 the number one cancer killer of both men and women; and

21 WHEREAS, in the United States, lung and bronchus  
22 (lung) cancer accounted for an estimated 127,000 deaths  
23 or 20 percent of all cancer deaths, and represented  
24 approximately 12 percent of all new cancer cases in  
25 2023; and

1 WHEREAS, approximately 1 in 16 men and 1 in 17  
2 women will be diagnosed with lung cancer in their  
3 lifetime; and

4 WHEREAS, lung cancer claims approximately the same  
5 number of lives annually as prostate, breast, and  
6 pancreatic cancer combined; and

7 WHEREAS, an estimated 6,310 Iowans died from lung  
8 cancer and an estimated 20,460 Iowans were newly  
9 diagnosed with lung cancer in 2023; and

10 WHEREAS, lung cancer has one of the lowest five-year  
11 survival rates with a five-year relative survival rate  
12 of approximately 63 percent following a diagnosis  
13 of localized or stage 1 lung cancer, 35 percent  
14 following a diagnosis of regional lung cancer that  
15 has spread to regional lymph nodes, and 8 percent  
16 following a diagnosis of distant lung cancer that has  
17 metastasized, making early detection the key to length  
18 of survival; and

19 WHEREAS, while the rate of lung cancer death is  
20 higher for men than women, lung cancer is the leading  
21 cause of cancer deaths among women, Black Americans,  
22 and Asian Americans; and

23 WHEREAS, while smoking is the leading risk factor  
24 for lung cancer accounting for 80 percent of lung  
25 cancer deaths, those who never smoked account for the  
26 remaining 20 percent, and the proportion of lung cancer  
27 diagnosed in individuals who never smoked is increasing  
28 in the United States with women who never smoked being  
29 more than twice as likely to develop lung cancer as men  
30 who never smoked; and

1 WHEREAS, while other leading risk factors of lung  
2 cancer include secondhand smoke, asbestos, certain  
3 metals and organic materials, radiation, air pollution,  
4 and diesel exhaust, family history and genetic factors  
5 may also play a role in the development of lung  
6 cancer; and

7 WHEREAS, funding for lung cancer research falls far  
8 behind funding for research of many other cancers,  
9 and additional research is needed in early diagnosis,  
10 screening, and treatment of lung cancer as well as to  
11 determine the unique impact of lung cancer on women  
12 and the effect of health disparities on diagnosis,  
13 treatment, and survival rates; and

14 WHEREAS, approximately 8 million Americans are at  
15 high risk for lung cancer and early detection for these  
16 individuals could reduce mortality by up to 20 percent,  
17 but only approximately 5.7 percent of these individuals  
18 are actually screened; and

19 WHEREAS, in 2024 as the American Lung Association,  
20 the oldest American voluntary health organization,  
21 marks its 120th anniversary of being at the forefront  
22 of improving public health and championing lung health  
23 by focusing on four strategic imperatives: to defeat  
24 lung cancer, create a tobacco-free future, champion  
25 clean air for all, and improve the quality of life for  
26 those living with lung disease; NOW THEREFORE,

27 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
28 That the House of Representatives designates the month  
29 of November 2024 as Lung Cancer Awareness Month and  
30 encourages the citizens of Iowa to speak with their

H.R. 105

1 doctors and other health care providers to learn more  
2 about lung cancer; and encourages the citizens of Iowa,  
3 government agencies, private businesses, nonprofit  
4 organizations, the media, and other interested entities  
5 to increase awareness about what Iowans can do to  
6 prevent, detect, and treat lung cancer.