2017 ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION 73

September 7, 2017 – Introduced by Representatives DUCHOW, ANDERSON, BALLWEG, BERCEAU, BERNIER, BRANDTJEN, E. BROOKS, BROSTOFF, GENRICH, HEBL, HORLACHER, JACQUE, KOLSTE, KULP, MASON, MURSAU, NOVAK, PETRYK, POPE, RIPP, ROHRKASTE, SARGENT, SPIROS, SPREITZER, STEFFEN, SUBECK, TAUCHEN, THIESFELDT, TRANEL, ZEPNICK, TUSLER and PRONSHINSKE, cosponsored by Senators L. TAYLOR, BEWLEY, DARLING, JOHNSON, MARKLEIN, OLSEN and RINGHAND. Referred to Committee on Rules.

Relating to: proclaiming September 2017 as Pediatric Cancer Awareness Month.

Whereas, childhood cancer is the leading cause of death by disease in children; and

Whereas, one in 285 children in the United States will be diagnosed with cancer by their 20th birthday; and

Whereas, 43 children per day, or 15,780 children per year, are diagnosed with cancer in the United States; and

Whereas, there are approximately 40,000 children on active treatment at any given time; and

Whereas, the average age of diagnosis for childhood cancer is six years old, compared to 66 years old for cancer diagnosis in adults; and

Whereas, 80 percent of childhood cancer patients are diagnosed late and with metastatic disease; and
Whereas, there has been an average 0.6 percent increase in the incidence of childhood cancer per year since the mid-1970s, resulting in an overall increase of 24 percent over the last 40 years; and

Whereas, 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, approximately one-half of childhood cancer families rate the associated financial toxicity due to out-of-pocket expenses as considerable to severe; and

Whereas, in the last 20 years, only three new drugs have been approved by the 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 out that research; and

Whereas, hundreds of nonprofit organizations at the local and national level, including the American Childhood Cancer Organization, are helping children with cancer and their families cope through educational, emotional, and financial support; and

Whereas, researchers and healthcare professionals work diligently, dedicating their expertise to treating and curing children with cancer; and

Whereas, too many children are affected by this deadly disease, and more must be done to raise awareness and find a cure; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That: the legislature proclaims September 2017 as Pediatric Cancer Awareness Month in Wisconsin; and, be it further
Resolved, That the assembly chief clerk shall provide a copy of this resolution to the governor of the State of Wisconsin and the American Childhood Cancer Organization.