

REFERENCE TITLE: lung cancer awareness month

State of Arizona  
Senate  
Fifty-sixth Legislature  
First Regular Session  
2023

## **SR 1003**

Introduced by  
Senators Alston: Gabaldón, Gonzales, Marsh, Miranda, Sundareshan;  
Representatives Gutierrez, Pawlik

### A RESOLUTION

DESIGNATING NOVEMBER 2023 AS LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH IN ARIZONA.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1           Whereas, lung cancer is the leading cause of cancer-related deaths  
2 among men and women in the United States, accounting for more deaths than  
3 colon cancer, breast cancer and prostate cancer combined; and

4           Whereas, lung cancer is the second most common cancer in the United  
5 States; and

6           Whereas, one in 15 men and one in 17 women in the United States will  
7 develop lung cancer during their lifetimes; and

8           Whereas, in 2021, an estimated 235,760 individuals in the United  
9 States were diagnosed with lung cancer and an estimated 131,880  
10 individuals died from the disease; and

11           Whereas, lung cancer incidence is decreasing twice as fast in men as  
12 it is in women. Each year more women die from lung cancer than breast  
13 cancer and, by 2035, more women will die from lung cancer than men; and

14           Whereas, lung cancer in never-smokers is the seventh leading cause  
15 of cancer-related death and accounts for 17,000 to 26,000 deaths in the  
16 United States every year. Sixty to 70 percent of never-smokers diagnosed  
17 with lung cancer are women, and the proportion of lung cancers diagnosed  
18 in never-smokers is increasing in the United States; and

19           Whereas, the five-year survival rate for localized lung cancer is  
20 around 59 percent, yet only about 17 percent of lung cancers are diagnosed  
21 at this stage; and

22           Whereas, screening high-risk individuals for lung cancer using  
23 low-dose computed tomography can detect lung cancer earlier than other  
24 forms of screening and can save lives. This was shown by the National  
25 Lung Screening Trial to reduce the mortality rate by 20 percent when  
26 compared to screening by chest x-ray, and by a randomized control trial  
27 funded by the Netherlands Organization of Health Research and Development  
28 to reduce the risk of death at 10 years by 24 percent in men and 33  
29 percent in women when compared to no screening; and

30           Whereas, lung cancer screening can effectively reduce lung cancer  
31 mortality, yet only a small percentage, 3.9 to 8.6 percent, of individuals  
32 who are considered to be at a high risk for developing lung cancer  
33 actually undergo lung cancer screening with low-dose computed tomography;  
34 and

35           Whereas, disparities in lung cancer screening, diagnosis, treatment  
36 and mortality are well documented; and

37           Whereas, educational efforts can increase awareness of lung cancer  
38 and lung cancer screening among the general public, patients and health  
39 care workers, thereby increasing the early detection of lung cancer.

40 Therefore

41 Be it resolved by the Senate of the State of Arizona:

42           1. That the Members of the Senate designate November 2023 as Lung  
43 Cancer Awareness Month in Arizona.

44           2. That the Members of the Senate support the goals and ideals of  
45 National Lung Cancer Awareness Month.

1           3. That the Members of the Senate support efforts to increase  
2 awareness of, education about and research on smoking cessation,  
3 screening, diagnosis and treatment of lung cancer, lung cancer affecting  
4 women, lung cancer in never-smokers and lung cancer health disparities.

5           4. That the Members of the Senate encourage the people of Arizona  
6 to observe National Lung Cancer Awareness Month with appropriate awareness  
7 and educational activities.