

By Senator Saunders

37-104-03

1 Senate Resolution No. ____

2 A resolution designating September 2003 as

3 Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month in Florida and

4 commending the Ovarian Cancer Alliance of

5 Florida.

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7 WHEREAS, approximately 23,000 women are diagnosed with

8 ovarian cancer in the United States every year, and, for 70

9 percent of those women, the disease is in the advanced stages

10 when detected, and

11 WHEREAS, ovarian cancer is the most deadly

12 gynecological cancer because it is usually diagnosed in its

13 late stages, when it is more difficult to treat, and

14 WHEREAS, the overall 5-year survival rate is less than

15 50 percent, and these figures have shown only minimal

16 improvement over the last 15-25 years, and

17 WHEREAS, if diagnosed and treated at an early stage,

18 90-95 percent of women diagnosed with ovarian cancer will be

19 alive 5 years later, and

20 WHEREAS, the incidence of such cancer increased between

21 1985 and 1995, with a 30-percent increase in the number of

22 cases diagnosed and an 18-percent increase in the number of

23 ovarian cancer deaths reported in the United States, and

24 WHEREAS, the risks and symptoms of ovarian cancer are

25 not well-known by the public, and

26 WHEREAS, it has been predicted that ovarian cancer will

27 reach epidemic proportions as the population ages because

28 advancing age is one of the known risk factors for the

29 development of this disease, and

30 WHEREAS, the Ovarian Cancer Alliance of Florida-Gulf

31 Coast is dedicated to dispelling myths and misunderstandings

1 about this disease and is actively engaged in programs to save
2 women's lives by raising awareness of ovarian cancer and by
3 promoting education regarding its risks and symptoms, and

4 WHEREAS, it is appropriate for all the residents of
5 this state to learn more about ovarian cancer and to recognize
6 the efforts of the Ovarian Cancer Alliance of Florida-Gulf
7 Coast as it promotes Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month in the
8 State of Florida, NOW, THEREFORE,

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10 Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida:

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12 That the Florida Senate designates September 2003 as
13 Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month in Florida and commends the
14 Ovarian Cancer Alliance of Florida-Gulf Coast for its efforts
15 to educate people about this deadly disease, thereby promoting
16 early diagnosis of the disease and helping to save lives.

17 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution,
18 with the Seal of the Senate affixed, be presented to Carolyn
19 Benivegna, President and Founder of the Ovarian Cancer
20 Alliance of Florida, as a tangible token of the sentiments of
21 the Florida Senate.

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