

HR 9155

2004

House Resolution

A resolution designating October 2004 as "Breast Cancer Awareness Month" in Florida.

WHEREAS, breast cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer among women in the nation, and Florida ranks third nationally in the total number of new breast cancer cases and deaths, with women in this state being at a one-in-seven lifetime risk of developing this disease, and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society estimates that 13,350 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed in Florida in 2004 and that approximately 2,480 women will die of the disease, and

WHEREAS, all women are at risk of breast cancer, but the single most critical risk factor is age, for statistics show that the rate of breast cancer incidence and death increases with age and that 96 percent of all such cancers occur in women ages 40 and older, and

WHEREAS, breast cancer is the second most common cause of cancer death in both white and African-American women; however, the death rate for this disease among African-American women is significantly higher than that for white women, and

WHEREAS, if the disease is found in its earliest stages, the 5-year survival rate is 97 percent, dropping to 23 percent if the cancer is detected later, in a stage of metastases, and

WHEREAS, early detection, through routine clinical examinations and mammography screening beginning at age 40 as recommended by American Cancer Society guidelines, is the key to detecting breast cancer in its earliest stages, NOW, THEREFORE,

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Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Florida:

That the House of Representatives designates October 2004 as "Breast Cancer Awareness Month" in Florida and urges all women to become more aware of the risks associated with the occurrence of this disease, to take preventive measures to minimize those risks, and to undergo early detection procedures such as mammography and adherence to the American Cancer Society recommended screening guidelines.