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House Resolution

A resolution designating October 2005 as "Breast Cancer Awareness Month" in Florida.

WHEREAS, breast cancer is the most common cancer diagnosed in women in the United States, and all women are at risk for breast cancer, and

WHEREAS, breast cancer is the second most common cause of cancer death among white women and the number one cause of cancer death among African-American women, and

WHEREAS, the single biggest risk factor of breast cancer is age since breast cancer predominantly occurs in women 50 years of age and older, and the risk increases with age until the age of 80, and

WHEREAS, a woman living in Florida has a one-in-seven chance of developing breast cancer, and Florida ranks third in the nation for the total number of new breast cancer cases and deaths from the disease, and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society estimates that more than 13,430 new cases of invasive breast cancer will be diagnosed in Florida and that approximately 2,570 Florida women will die of the disease during the year 2005, and

WHEREAS, early detection through routine clinical exams and mammography screening beginning at age 40, in compliance with the American Cancer Society's recommended guidelines, is the key to detecting breast cancer in its earliest stages, and

WHEREAS, the 5-year survival rate for breast cancer, if the disease is found in its earliest stages, is 98 percent but drops

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29 | to 26 percent if the cancer is detected late, in a stage of  
30 | metastasis, and

31 |       WHEREAS, in conjunction with the promotion of October as  
32 | "Breast Cancer Awareness Month," breast cancer awareness  
33 | programs such as the American Cancer Society's "Reach to  
34 | Recovery" program will promote early breast cancer detection  
35 | through regular screening, NOW, THEREFORE,

36 |

37 | Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of  
38 | Florida:

39 |

40 |       That October 2005 is designated "Breast Cancer Awareness  
41 | Month" in Florida, and all women are urged to understand the  
42 | risks associated with breast cancer and to undergo early  
43 | detection procedures such as mammography and comply with the  
44 | American Cancer Society's recommended breast cancer screening  
45 | guidelines as preventive steps toward minimizing the risks  
46 | caused by breast cancer.