

By Senator Joyner

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing October 2008 as "Breast Cancer Awareness Month" in Florida.

WHEREAS, breast cancer is the third most frequently diagnosed cancer and is ranked third among cancer deaths in women in the United States, and

WHEREAS, Florida ranks second in the nation for total number of breast cancer deaths and fourth in the nation for total number of new breast cancer cases, and

WHEREAS, all women are at risk for breast cancer and the single most important risk factor is age, such that breast cancers predominantly occur in women age 50 and older, and the risk increases with age until age 80, and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society estimates that more than 11,850 new cases of invasive breast cancer in Florida will be diagnosed, and approximately 2,760 women will die of the disease, during the year 2008, and

WHEREAS, a woman living in Florida has a one-in-eight chance of developing breast cancer, and

WHEREAS, breast cancer is the second most common cause of cancer death in white, African American, Asian American, and American Indian women, and the first most common among Hispanic women living in the United States, and

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

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29 WHEREAS, the 5-year survival rate for breast cancer, if the
30 disease is found in its earliest stages, is 98 percent, but drops
31 down to 26.7 percent if the cancer is detected late, in a stage
32 of metastases, and

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

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

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41 That the Florida Senate recognizes the month of October 2008
42 as "Breast Cancer Awareness Month" in Florida and urges all women
43 to understand the risks associated with breast cancer, to take
44 preventive steps to minimize those risks, and to undergo early
45 detection procedures such as mammography and compliance with the
46 American Cancer Society's recommended breast cancer screening
47 guidelines.