

By Senator Rich

34-02154-09

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Senate Resolution

A resolution recognizing April 16, 2009, as "Cervical Cancer Awareness Day."

WHEREAS, cervical cancer is the most common cancer diagnosed among women worldwide and is caused by certain types of human papillomavirus, and

WHEREAS, unlike many other forms of cancer, cervical cancer has a precursor that can be treated and can prevent progression of the disease, and

WHEREAS, since 1947, Papanicolaou testing, commonly known as "Pap screening," has significantly decreased the incidence and the mortality of cervical cancer by 70 percent, and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society recommends that annual cervical cancer screening begin at age 21 or within 3 years of sexual activity, and

WHEREAS, approximately half of the women who develop cervical cancer have never been screened and an additional 10 percent have not been screened in the last 5 years, and

WHEREAS, in 2008, the American Cancer Society estimated that 11,070 women would be diagnosed with cervical cancer, 3,460 with vulvar cancer, 2,210 with vaginal cancer; 1,250 men would be diagnosed with penile or genital cancer; and 3,050 women and 2,020 men would be diagnosed with anal cancer, which are all human papillomavirus related diseases, and

WHEREAS, cervical cancer is one of the most preventable cancers, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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That April 16, 2009, is recognized as "Cervical Cancer Awareness Day" in Florida and all women are urged to understand the risks associated with cervical cancer, to take preventive steps to minimize those risks, and to talk to their doctor about annual cervical cancer screening and compliance with the cervical cancer screening guidelines recommended by the American Cancer Society.