

HR 9117

2009

House Resolution

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

WHEREAS, cervical cancer is the second 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 three years of sexual activity, and

WHEREAS, health care disparities exist in both the access to cervical cancer care and cervical cancer screening, and

WHEREAS, newly available vaccinations have made cervical cancer one of the most preventable cancers, 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 five years, and

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

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

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