

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 289

WHEREAS, Ovarian cancer, which is the fourth most common cause of fatal cancer in the United States, is one of the most serious threats to women's health across our state and nation; and

WHEREAS, This dire disease causes more deaths than any other cancer of the female reproductive system; ovarian cancer is treatable, but only when it is detected before spreading beyond the ovaries, at which stage the five-year survival rate can be almost 93 percent; and

WHEREAS, Unfortunately, there is currently no screening test for early detection of ovarian cancer; therefore, increased public awareness about the disease, its risk factors, and its subtle symptoms is important for saving lives; and

WHEREAS, It is of paramount importance that women and their doctors learn to recognize the warning signs, which are often the only early indication of illness; increased awareness of the symptoms and risk factors will greatly enhance chances of early detection and survival; and

WHEREAS, Inspired by and in memory of Carolyn Mierl, Donna Rossi, and Linda Manning, three mothers who lost their battle with the disease, the Central Texas, Dallas/Fort Worth, and Houston divisions of the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition are promoting ovarian cancer awareness activities during the month of September, 2003, and are encouraging every woman in Texas to become knowledgeable about the symptoms and risk factors of the disease; and

WHEREAS, More ovarian cancer research will undoubtedly help to develop reliable diagnostics, improved therapies, and prevention strategies, thereby offering women the opportunity to better fight and overcome this deadliest of all gynecological cancers; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Senate of the State of Texas, 78th Legislature, hereby recognize September of 2003 as Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month in the State of Texas and encourage Texans to seek out information about this serious health concern.

Van de Putte

President of the Senate

I hereby certify that the above Resolution was adopted by the Senate on March 4, 2003.

Secretary of the Senate

Member, Texas Senate