

By: Alvarado

H.R. No. 1740

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, Inflammatory breast cancer is a rare but very
2 aggressive type of breast cancer in which the cancer cells block the
3 lymph vessels in the skin of the breast; and

4 WHEREAS, Individuals with IBC may experience such symptoms in
5 their breasts as redness, swelling, shooting pain, persistent
6 itching, and warmth, which may appear virtually overnight; and

7 WHEREAS, IBC cases risk being misdiagnosed because the
8 symptoms are similar to those of the benign breast infection
9 mastitis, and delay of appropriate care often means a Stage IV
10 diagnosis; and

11 WHEREAS, Although IBC accounts for only one to five percent
12 of all breast cancer cases, it has a faster doubling time than that
13 of other breast cancers; moreover, the lack of expertise about IBC
14 in the medical community and the cancer's resistance to treatment
15 with standard chemotherapy drugs make the five-year median survival
16 rate for IBC approximately 40 percent; and

17 WHEREAS, IBC usually grows in nests or sheets without the
18 usual lump women are told to look for, and because there is no lump,
19 IBC is rarely detected by mammograms or ultrasounds; and

20 WHEREAS, The treatment for IBC differs from other breast
21 cancer treatments, and finding a physician with IBC-specific
22 experience is essential; and

23 WHEREAS, Increasing public understanding of inflammatory
24 breast cancer is the first step toward fighting this devastating

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1 disease, and participating in Inflammatory Breast Cancer Awareness
2 Month is one effective way to support that effort; now, therefore,
3 be it

4 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 82nd Texas
5 Legislature hereby recognize October 2011 as Inflammatory Breast
6 Cancer Awareness Month and encourage all Texans to learn more about
7 IBC.