

which to improve cyber security awareness in this country, and I am pleased that this Congress is supporting its goals and ideals. As I have said, we have much work to do, but being aware of the need for cyber security is a necessary, essential first step.

I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ).

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague from California for the time.

I rise in strong support of House Resolution 993 and the goals and ideals of the National Cyber Security Awareness Month, and I am proud to be one of the original cosponsors of this resolution.

I believe that raising awareness about the need to enhance computer and network security in the U.S. is a valuable tool to protect the identities and data of all Americans.

As the ranking member on the Economic Security, Infrastructure Protection and Cyber Security Subcommittee on the Committee on Homeland Security, I have had an opportunity to work on critical issues related to cyber security.

In the past, I have offered a number of amendments to various bills to increase our investment in cyber security research and development at the Department of Homeland Security, and I hope that in the next Congress we will make significant progress in this area.

I believe that we need to pay more attention to the state of cyber security because it affects all of us, from the government and large corporations to small businesses and, of course, to individuals.

Our country's infrastructure relies on secure information networks that ensure the reliable functioning of everything from public finance and control of water systems to the operation of electrical grids and emergency response systems.

For all of us, all Americans, our information infrastructure is an integral part of our daily life, allowing us to communicate with friends and family, and pay bills and manage our business.

Imagine, if we go to the ATM and our money is gone, and this all leads back to some break in some network. At that point, we are going to realize just how important this is and how this can impact us on a daily basis.

It is the reliance on these information networks, these networks that are so much a part of our lives, and that is why it makes it such a great potential for targeted attacks by people who wish to harm us. And this type of attack would be devastating to our physical safety, as well as the economic security of our country. That is the reason I think that government needs to be a leader in the field of cyber security.

When I was talking to some of my companies about this, they said the simplest thing, about like over 50 percent of the people that use a network system do not use passwords. We should be using passwords. Those who use passwords may use something like the name of our dog or our pet; well, anybody who knows you can guess that or can get that name.

So I went through and I changed my passwords, and I changed Gretskey off of my passwords and everything else. Why? Because we need to. These are very simple, individual things that we can do because if once a person gets into the network, it goes much wider than that and can go into banking institutions and can go into the House of Representatives, et cetera.

□ 1215

So I urge my colleagues to support the goals and ideals of National Cyber Security Awareness Month. I hope every small business will take advantage of some of the free information with respect to making our networks safe.

Mr. BOEHLERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 993, a resolution to applaud the goals and activities of National Cyber Security Awareness Month.

Information technology is becoming a critical part of our society, from wireless phones and blackberries to electronic medical records, and public trust in the security and reliability of these systems is necessary for the U.S. to realize the economic and societal benefits of new technologies.

Cybersecurity is also an important part of homeland security. The Science Committee has heard testimony from energy, electric power, and telecommunications companies about their dependence on information systems and their concerns about the nation's vulnerability to cyber attacks. The connectedness of the Internet means that each person not only must protect himself in cyberspace but also that each person's cybersecurity efforts contribute to the nation's overall state of cyber and homeland security. Progress is being made, but we as a Nation still have a long way to go.

Cybersecurity has long been a priority of mine, and I am proud to represent New York State, which has long been at the forefront of developing new cybersecurity tools and training people in information security.

In my district, the Air Force's Rome Laboratory is a world leader in cybersecurity research programs to strengthen and protect the systems used by the military, and to develop forensic tools used by law enforcement at all levels. The laboratory also hosts innovative cybersecurity education programs including an annual Cyber Security Boot Camp to train ROTC cadets and civilian undergraduate students from all over the country in cutting edge cybersecurity techniques.

The Cyber Security Boot Camp has also led to the creation of a high school-level course in cybersecurity being taught at Rome Catholic High School in my district. This 20-week elective course will soon be accredited by the New

York State Board of Education and can serve as a model for cybersecurity education nationwide.

As part of National Cyber Security Awareness Month, the University of Rochester hosted the 10-day Rochester Security Summit in collaboration with higher education, business and industry partners, and New York State ran a Poster Art Contest, open to all 4th and 5th grade students in the State, for art that illustrated how to use computers and the Internet safely.

I urge my colleagues to support adoption of H. Res. 993.

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, I urge passage of the resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. INGLIS of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. INGLIS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 993.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds of those voting having responded in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GYNECOLOGIC CANCER EDUCATION AND AWARENESS ACT OF 2005

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1245) to provide for programs to increase the awareness and knowledge of women and health care providers with respect to gynecologic cancers, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1245

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Gynecologic Cancer Education and Awareness Act of 2005" or "Johanna's Law".

SEC. 2. NATIONAL PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services (referred to in this Act as the "Secretary") shall carry out a national campaign to increase the awareness and knowledge of health care providers and women with respect to gynecologic cancers.

(b) WRITTEN MATERIALS.—Activities under the national campaign under subsection (a) shall include—

(1) maintaining a supply of written materials that provide information to the public on gynecologic cancers; and

(2) distributing the materials to members of the public upon request.

(c) PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS.—Activities under the national campaign under subsection (a) shall, in accordance with applicable law and regulations, include developing and placing, in telecommunications media, public service announcements intended to encourage women to discuss with their physicians their risks of gynecologic

cancers. Such announcements shall inform the public on the manner in which the written materials referred to in subsection (b) can be obtained upon request, and shall call attention to early warning signs and risk factors based on the best available medical information.

SEC. 3. REPORT AND STRATEGY.

(a) REPORT.—Not later than 6 months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to the Congress a report including the following:

(1) A description of the past and present activities of the Department of Health and Human Services to increase awareness and knowledge of the public with respect to different types of cancer, including gynecologic cancers.

(2) A description of the past and present activities of the Department of Health and Human Services to increase awareness and knowledge of health care providers with respect to different types of cancer, including gynecologic cancers.

(3) For each activity described pursuant to paragraph (1) or (2), a description of the following:

(A) The funding for such activity for fiscal year 2006 and the cumulative funding for such activity for previous fiscal years.

(B) The background and history of such activity, including—

(i) the goals of such activity;

(ii) the communications objectives of such activity;

(iii) the identity of each agency within the Department of Health and Human Services responsible for any aspect of the activity; and

(iv) how such activity is or was expected to result in change.

(C) How long the activity lasted or is expected to last.

(D) The outcomes observed and the evaluation methods, if any, that have been, are being, or will be used with respect to such activity.

(E) For each such outcome or evaluation method, a description of the associated results, analyses, and conclusions.

(b) STRATEGY.—

(1) DEVELOPMENT; SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Not later than 3 months after submitting the report required by subsection (a), the Secretary shall develop and submit to the Congress a strategy for improving efforts to increase awareness and knowledge of the public and health care providers with respect to different types of cancer, including gynecological cancers.

(2) CONSULTATION.—In developing the strategy under paragraph (1), the Secretary should consult with qualified private sector groups, including nonprofit organizations.

SEC. 4. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

For the purpose of carrying out this Act, there is authorized to be appropriated \$16,500,000 for the period of fiscal years 2007 through 2009.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. DEAL) and the gentlewoman from Wisconsin (Ms. BALDWIN) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Georgia.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on this legislation and to insert extraneous material on the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Georgia?

There was no objection.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I am pleased to rise in support of H.R. 1245, the Gynecologic Cancer Education and Awareness Act of 2005, or Johanna's Law. This bill takes several important steps forward in helping to educate women and their health care providers about the dangers and early warning signs of gynecologic cancers.

Ovarian, cervical, and uterine cancers are grouped together as the major gynecologic cancers. And as members of the Energy and Commerce committee recently learned during consideration of the CDC's National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program, gynecological cancer, specifically cervical cancer, was once the leading cause of cancer deaths among women in the United States. Over the past century, we have made great strides in reducing both the morbidity and the mortality associated with cervical cancer. We also have programs in place, like the CDC's Early Detection program, that provides free screening and referral services for women who cannot afford to pay for screenings themselves.

When experts have compared cervical cancer screening and survival rates of the United States to other industrialized countries, the United States ranks near the top. We do a good job of screening for cancer, and our treatment facilities are in fact the best in the world. With the recent discovery of a new vaccine approach to prevent the transmission of the HPV virus, I am hopeful that one day we will be able to eradicate most if not all cases of cervical cancer.

But, Mr. Speaker, there is much more work to be done on gynecological cancers. Too many women don't know enough about the disease to ask their doctors or go to regular screenings. Too many cases of gynecologic cancers go unidentified or untreated until it is too late. This is the underlying purpose for the legislation before us today. This bill takes the important step of creating a national public service campaign to educate women and their health care providers on gynecologic cancers. The campaign will help to raise awareness of the problem, the warning signs, and remind women to get screened regularly.

Within 6 months of enactment, the legislation will require the Department of Health and Human Services to submit a report to Congress on all education and outreach activities related to gynecologic cancers and other cancers. This information will give Congress and the executive branch the tools to identify what activities are ongoing and what is being done, what is

working, and what could be done better.

At this time I would like to thank my colleagues, Mr. ISSA, Ms. GRANGER, Mr. BURTON, Mr. LEVIN, and Ms. DELAURO for their hard work on this important piece of legislation. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise in strong support of H.R. 1245, the Gynecologic Cancer Education and Awareness Act, also named Johanna's Law. It is an important piece of legislation which would provide for programs to increase the awareness and knowledge of women and health care providers with respect to gynecologic cancers.

Gynecologic cancers include cervical cancer, ovarian cancer, and uterine cancer. Gynecologic cancers affect approximately 80,000 American women each year and take nearly 29,000 lives. While diagnosis and treatment methods are becoming more targeted and accurate for gynecologic cancers, most women do not understand the symptoms or signs of gynecologic cancer and, therefore, are frequently diagnosed late. A late diagnosis often makes treatment more difficult and lengthens the need for medical care.

Unfortunately, many women and their physicians are unaware of the symptoms of gynecologic cancers. A recent poll conducted for the Gynecologic Cancer Foundation found that 47 percent of surveyed women could not name any symptoms of gynecologic cancers.

Johanna's Law would increase awareness by directing the Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services to carry out a nationwide campaign to increase women's awareness and knowledge of gynecologic cancers. This campaign would include maintaining and distributing a supply of written materials that provide information to the public about gynecologic cancer. It would also aid in the development of public service announcements intended to encourage women to discuss their risk for gynecologic cancers with their physicians.

Furthermore, this legislation would instruct the Secretary of HHS to take a closer look at both its past and present activities regarding gynecologic cancer awareness and education in hopes of learning what works and what does not, and what needs to be done to help with early detection and treatment of gynecologic cancers.

While we have made significant progress in fighting those cancers, progress such as the newly developed and improved cervical cancer vaccine, one of the biggest threats that remains is the continued need for increased awareness of gynecologic cancers.

Quite simply, knowledge is power. Providing women and their doctors with up-to-date information about the causes and symptoms of gynecologic cancers will strengthen and support women's health.

I am proud to support this bipartisan bill to improve women's health, and I applaud the bill's sponsors, Mr. ISSA, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. BURTON for their dedication to women's health.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California (Mr. ISSA).

Mr. ISSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of this important piece of legislation. As we come to the close of the 109th Congress, many have used the term "do-nothing Congress." This bill, certainly on a bipartisan basis, is a "do-something bill."

We have in this country for a very long time have had people, women in this case, dying needlessly of undiagnosed cancers. I want to thank Chairman BURTON, Ranking Member JOHN DINGELL, his staff, and particularly my cosponsors, Mr. LEVIN very much in particular, who championed this bill in a previous Congress, and he and I worked together tirelessly with Congressman DAN BURTON, KAY GRANGER and ROSA DELAURO in this Congress to get bipartisan support. This bill has far more than half the Congress as cosponsors. It has been worked out, and we are very hopeful this will still become law in this Congress.

With that, I want to take no more time than to once again say that in this Congress there are some things we did as a bipartisan body that I am very proud of. This is one of them. And I thank my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for working so tirelessly to make this a reality.

I rise today to urge support for my bill, H.R. 1245, "the Gynecologic Cancer Education and Awareness Act of 2005," otherwise known as "Johanna's Law."

Every seven minutes a woman is diagnosed with a gynecologic cancer. In 2005, over 80,000 women were diagnosed with a gynecologic cancer and over 27,000 women died. The most common gynecologic cancers include cancer of the ovaries, cervix and uterus.

Too many women are dying because they were diagnosed too late. Education and early detection are the keys to saving women's lives and reducing these statistics. If diagnosed in the early stages, the 5-year survivability rates are as high as 95 percent.

Gynecologic cancers, when detected early, can often be prevented from becoming fatal. Since all women are at risk—no matter their ethnic background or socioeconomic status—it is critical that we find a way to inform women about the steps they can take to maintain their health.

Due to the private and intimate nature of these cancers, oftentimes women are uncom-

fortable or embarrassed discussing issues surrounding gynecologic cancers with friends and family. Thus, it is vital that we have a national dialogue to provide accurate and timely information to the public and the medical community.

By simply educating women about these cancers, we have an opportunity to save lives. The messages are simple: learn the symptoms, have an annual exam, know your family history and talk to your doctor. Unfortunately, most women do not know the signs or the symptoms surrounding gynecologic cancers. Thus, we need an aggressive national education and awareness program that brings together the appropriate federal agencies, the medical community, and the private sector. Passage of H.R. 1245 will help make this a reality.

There is a lot of excellent information provided by both the private and government sectors—specifically by the Gynecologic Cancer Foundation and the National Cancer Institute—and I commend their efforts. Tragically, most women and families look at these Web sites or pamphlets after cancer is diagnosed. The information needs to get out before diagnosis of a gynecologic cancer.

Education and awareness is an appropriate federal role. Education, coupled with research on improved diagnostic tools and cures, will lead to reductions in cancer deaths. While science and research are needed for long term success, education and awareness can save lives now. Education empowers women to make the best choices regarding their health care.

Last year, I discovered first-hand how important early diagnosis and education can be. My Legislative Director, Paige Anderson, was diagnosed with cervical cancer. She is one of the lucky ones—she stands here today as a cancer survivor. However, it was not until after diagnosis that she learned about HPV, cervical cancer and the importance of yearly pap smears and pelvic exams. Unfortunately, her story is not unique.

Paige's journey led me to work with Representatives SANDER LEVIN, DAN BURTON, KAY GRANGER, ROSA DELAURO and introduce H.R. 1245, "the Gynecologic Cancer Education and Awareness Act of 2005," which has 257 bipartisan cosponsors.

"Johanna's Law" has afforded me the privilege and honor to meet and work with an amazing group of survivors, patients, doctors and families who have lost loved ones to these awful cancers.

As I've spoken and met with other Members and staff on H.R. 1245, it is surprising how little is known about gynecologic cancers. In fact, most do not know that a pap smear only helps diagnose cervical cancer. This test does not screen for uterine or ovarian cancer. Most do not know that there are early warning symptoms for ovarian cancer. This is why we need H.R. 1245, so we can fill the void that currently exists.

I would like to take this time to thank several people who have been instrumental in passing this bill. I greatly appreciate the time and effort that Chairman BARTON and Ranking Member DINGELL have spent on this bill. We could not have passed this bill without the help of Committee and Leadership staff on both sides of the aisle.

I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1245.

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I would now yield 4 minutes to one of the lead cosponsors of this legislation, the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN).

Mr. LEVIN. Thank you very, very much for yielding. This is an important and somewhat emotional day. More than 4 years ago, Sheryl Silver first told me about her sister Johanna, who died of ovarian cancer in 2000 after a brave and hard fought battle.

Johanna Silver Gordon was an active, health conscious woman who taught high school at Southfield Lathrup High School in my congressional district. She came from a family of doctors and was conscientious about her health, but when she experienced the first symptoms of ovarian cancer, she thought they were gastrointestinal. By the time she was diagnosed, her cancer was in stage 3.

I discovered that Johanna's story was all too common. Each year, 77,000 women are diagnosed with gynecologic cancer, ovarian, cervical, or uterine. Most of them, like Johanna, do not have the information they need to recognize their early symptoms and are unaware that they are at high risk.

With these illnesses, lack of information often costs women their lives. Ovarian cancer, the deadliest of gynecologic cancers, is highly treatable and has survival rates of 80 to 90 percent if detected in stage 1 or 2, but has a survival rate of less than 20 percent if diagnosed late, as it most often is. And of these cancers, only cervical cancer today has a reliable screening test that can be used for asymptomatic women, making public education for women and their primary care physicians even more important.

This legislation, as has been mentioned by my colleagues, would create a national public information campaign to educate women and health care providers about the risk factors and early warning signs of these cancers. It would also require HHS to quickly develop a national strategy for getting the facts out to women at the highest risk and to health care providers that see them when they first develop these symptoms. We strongly believe that HHS's strategy should include public-private partnerships that leverage all the resources available and all the expertise that exists on this subject.

So here we are today, after the tireless work of so many people, and we are voting on Johanna's Law. Tireless work from her family, including her loving sister Sheryl Silver, and her mother, Ann Gonts Silver, who is celebrating her 91st birthday today, and the cancer survivors and family members across the country who rallied to this effort, and the physicians and the organizations that lent invaluable support, and my colleagues on both sides of the aisle, as mentioned, especially

DARRELL ISSA, ROSA DELAURO, KAY GRANGER, and DAN BURTON.

And if I might, let me lastly thank Morna Miller. Without her tireless efforts as a member of our staff over the last 3 years in developing this legislation and helping shepherd it to the House today, we would not be here at this moment.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support Johanna's Law and strike a blow against gynecologic cancer.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. FOXX).

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to simply add my support to this bill. I had the great opportunity when I was in the State Senate in North Carolina to learn much about HPV in particular. And while I consider myself a fairly well educated woman in many cases, I knew nothing about the HPV until the organization Women in Government educated those of us in the State legislature about this completely preventable cancer.

We are looking for a way to prevent cancer and to cure cancer in this country and we now have a mechanism for doing that. And whatever we can do to spread the word to women that this particular cancer can be prevented, we need to do.

□ 1230

And so I am a supporter of this legislation and hope that we can do much in this country, State by State, as well as nationally, to educate women and help them understand the perils of many of these diseases and how they can prevent them.

We were able in North Carolina to pass a model piece of legislation. Unfortunately, it has not been passed in all the States, but I hope that more States will pick it up and help educate women about these diseases and how they can be prevented.

So I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to another primary sponsor of this legislation, Congresswoman DELAURO.

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I want to thank everyone who has made this legislation such a priority in the Congress, Congressmen ISSA and LEVIN for their leadership, as well as Sheryl Silver for her passion and her tenacity. This bipartisan coalition is a testament to the simple fact that when it comes to life and death, life and death issues like cancer, Congress speaks with one voice. It must.

This is a special moment. Whether it is a family member, a friend, or if you are a survivor yourself, each of us knows the deadly toll that gynecological cancer takes. Twenty years ago I found out for myself when, during an unrelated doctor's visit, I was diag-

nosed with ovarian cancer. I underwent radiation treatment for 2½ months, and I am proud to say that I have now been cancer-free for 20 years.

But no one should have to depend on luck when it comes to life and death. Right now, almost 21,000 women are diagnosed every year with ovarian cancer, nearly 16,000 of whom will die. Ovarian cancer claims the lives of nearly three-quarters of women diagnosed simply because the disease is not detected until it has reached an advanced stage. This disease has a 45 percent 5-year survival rate.

The tragedy is that ovarian cancer, like other gynecologic cancers, can be cured if it is detected soon enough. When ovarian cancer is detected in the early stages, 95 percent of women survive longer than 5 years, and most are cured completely. Unfortunately, women have never had a reliable and accurate method of screening for ovarian cancer in the early stages. On top of that, not only do many doctors misdiagnose this disease, but 85 percent of women report they do not know which symptoms to look for.

We have made progress, of course, through research at the NIH, Department of Defense, and with the recent approval of the HPV vaccine. But Johanna's Law recognized something critical, that until we have accurate screening methods, public education is one of the most critical weapons we have toward beating gynecologic cancers like ovarian, cervical and uterine cancer. In creating a Federal campaign to educate women and health care providers alike, as this legislation does, we can take a bold step toward ensuring that women know which symptoms to look for and how to seek help before it is too late.

This legislation has been a long time coming, and to be clear, it represents only a first step. But every inch of progress we make fighting these deadly diseases gets us closer to a cure. And that is a fight that every woman has a stake in, every family has a stake in, a fight the Silver family has dedicated itself to making sure we win.

And so I thank you. I thank you for helping us pass this vital bill and take such an important step forward. I was given a second chance at life. Others should have that same opportunity. It is about time.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HALL).

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, of course I rise today in support of H.R. 1245, the Gynecologic Cancer Education bill, also known as Johanna's bill.

This very important bill authorizes an early detection and awareness campaign directed at women and health care providers. Approximately 80,000 women a year will be diagnosed with some form of gynecological cancer, and close to 28,000 women will die from

these cancers. Early detection is the key to survival. But so many women and their providers are unaware of symptoms and risk factors.

Unfortunately, there isn't currently a reliable screening test for ovarian cancer. Women need to know the symptoms so that they can be diagnosed early. Studies demonstrate that early detection is the key to survival. When diagnosed early, women have a 90 percent chance of survival. However, that number drops to 50 percent or less when these cancers are diagnosed in the late stages. It is a sobering statistic that over three-fourths of the women with ovarian cancer are not diagnosed until the latter stages, making this the fifth leading cause of cancer death among American women. We need to turn these statistics around.

By creating a national public awareness campaign conducted through the Department of Health and Human Services, this bill helps distribute materials that will provide information to the public. This bill will also help develop public service announcements that encourage women to discuss their risk for gynecologic cancers with their health and care providers and alert them to early warning signs. Finally, HHS will award demonstration grants to nonprofit organizations to develop innovative outreach programs.

I urge Members to pass this important legislation today so that we can begin to improve and save the lives of many women with gynecologic cancers. I am pleased that we are moving forward on this legislation, and I encourage this body to move legislation aimed at mending the SGR for physicians before Congress recesses.

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, again I am proud to join my colleagues in supporting this legislation that will increase awareness and knowledge of women with respect to gynecologic cancers. This bill, as we have heard, will increase the survivability of these cancer diagnoses and prevent cancer deaths. I urge all of my colleagues to support this important legislation.

Mr. MARKEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of Johanna's law and I thank Representatives LEVIN, ISSA, DELAURO and BURTON and their strong bipartisan coalition for all of their hard work in bringing this bill to the floor today.

This bill honors the memory of Johanna Silver Gordon and the thousands of women who have lost their lives to gynecologic cancer because they were not diagnosed until the late stages of the disease.

This year, more than 80,000 women will be diagnosed with gynecologic cancer, and more than 28,000 women will die from these diseases. However, there is very little awareness about these deadly diseases. According to the National Ovarian Cancer Coalition, NOCC, only 15 percent of women are familiar with the symptoms of ovarian cancer, and 82 percent have never talked to their doctors about the symptoms and risk factors.

If caught in the early stages of the disease, the five-year survival rate for ovarian cancer is 90 percent. However 75 percent of women are diagnosed in the advanced stages of the disease, when the prognosis is very poor. It is clear that we must do something to increase awareness about this disease and promote early diagnosis. Johanna's law will authorize a national campaign directed at women and their providers to promote early detection of gynecologic cancer and raise awareness about these devastating diseases.

I would like to thank one of my constituents, Barbara O'Brien, a 9-year survivor herself, for her passionate advocacy and her dedication to raising awareness about this incredibly important issue.

Education is a critical first step and this bill will significantly increase awareness. However, we must also continue to pursue the research necessary to find a diagnostic test, better treatments and ultimately a cure for this horrible disease so that succeeding generations will have to turn to the history books to learn that there was ever a disease called ovarian cancer.

I urge support of this important legislation

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1245, the Gynecologic Cancer Education and Awareness Act, or "Johanna's Law," a bipartisan, common-sense measure that will help save the lives of thousands of American women each year.

Uterine cancer is the most common form of gynecologic cancer, and ovarian cancer is the deadliest. Unlike cervical cancer, there is no reliable early detection screening test for these cancers. This means that 80,000 women will be diagnosed with gynecologic cancers this year, and almost 30,000 will die because their illnesses were detected too late.

Most women don't recognize the symptoms of gynecologic cancers, and many doctors initially misdiagnose them.

Early detection is the key to successful treatment of gynecologic cancers. We must do better. This bill will help save the lives and improve the health of our Nation's mothers, wives and daughters.

Johanna's Law was named for the sister of one of my constituents from Hallandale, Florida, who lost her life to ovarian cancer. I want to congratulate Sheryl Silver and her family for their hard work, dedication, and commitment to saving the lives of millions of American women.

This bill will authorize millions of dollars in desperately needed funds to help raise awareness and increase knowledge about these cancers that will lead to early detection, effective treatment, and saved lives.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join 256 of my colleagues as co-sponsors of this important piece of legislation.

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1245, a bill to authorize the Department of Health and Human Services to carry out a national campaign to increase the awareness and knowledge of women with respect to gynecologic cancers.

Two months ago marked the seventh annual Gynecologic Cancer Awareness Month. I expressed my strong belief that raising public awareness, detecting gynecological cancers

early, and educating women to the risk of reproductive tract cancers are powerful methods with which to combat this disease in my September 29, 2006, statement in honor of Gynecological Cancer Awareness Month. Today, we continue the important work to raise public awareness of gynecologic cancers through passage of this bill. We also reaffirm that detecting gynecological cancer early and educating women to the risk of reproductive tract cancers are key methods with which to combat this disease by passing this legislation.

It is important to recognize that H.R. 1245 enjoys the support of 257 members of this body. The bill has been named in honor of Johanna Silver Gordon, who lost her life to a battle with ovarian cancer which was not diagnosed until it had reached an advanced stage. Today we honor her life and her fight against cancer. We also renew our commitment to legislation to be known as Johanna's Law once enacted that will help save the lives of others who are at risk of gynecologic cancers.

A poll recently released by the Gynecological Cancer Foundation revealed that 45 percent of American women could not name a single symptom common to gynecological cancers. This fact alone suggests more must be done in terms increasing awareness. Education and outreach on gynecological cancers deserves to be a national priority and an ongoing effort of the Department of Health and Human Services.

I urge that this House adopt H.R. 1245, and I urge my colleagues' support for additional and continued action towards increasing research funds and treatment options for those individuals who have been diagnosed with forms of gynecologic cancer.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1245, "Johanna's Law" or the "Gynecological Cancer Education and Awareness Act of 2005." I want to thank Chairman NATHAN DEAL and Chairman JOE BARTON, and the Energy and Commerce Committee staff, for bringing this bill to the floor today. I also want to thank my colleagues, Representative DARRYL ISSA and Representative SANDER LEVIN, the lead sponsors of this bill, who have worked so tirelessly for over two years to guide this bill through the legislative process. I want to thank the 257 House Members and 42 Senators, Republican and Democrat, Conservative and Liberal, who co-sponsored this critically needed bipartisan legislation.

I also want to congratulate Ms. Sheryl Silver, the architect of this bill. Sheryl's sister Johanna Silver Gordon (who this bill is named after) died after her battle with ovarian cancer in 2000; and Sheryl found the will and the strength to turn her personal tragedy into a passionate crusade to help make sure that other women will not die needlessly from gynecological cancers.

And last but by no means least; I want to thank Ms. Kolleen Stacy, a constituent of mine and a dear friend who is currently fighting her own personal battle with ovarian cancer. Kolleen first brought this bill to my attention and once told me that her most fervent wish was to live long enough to see this bill signed into law. Today, thanks to the efforts of so many, we take a huge step forward towards fulfilling Kolleen's dream. And I would say to

her that today's debate is a victory for all women, but in my mind, Kolleen, this is your day.

The word "cancer" evokes powerful emotions. Along with many of my colleagues, I know first-hand how devastating cancer can be to the individual who has been diagnosed as well as their family. Ovarian Cancer for example, is the deadliest of the gynecological cancers, and it is the fourth leading cause of cancer deaths among women living in the United States. Each year nearly 80,000 women in this country are diagnosed with a new case of gynecological cancer, and an estimated 28,000 die from these diseases. This is a national tragedy, and what makes it even more tragic is the fact that many of those deaths could have been prevented if more women and their doctors knew the risk factors and recognized the early warning signs of ovarian cancer and other gynecological cancers.

That is why I am such a proud co-sponsor and passionate supporter of Johanna's Law. When it is detected early, ovarian cancer is very treatable, unfortunately, ovarian cancer is one of the most difficult cancers to diagnose because symptoms are sometimes subtle and may be easily confused with those of other diseases. As a result, only 29 percent of ovarian cancer cases in the U.S. are diagnosed in the early stages. When the disease is detected before it has spread beyond the ovaries, more than 95 percent of women will survive longer than five years. But, in cases where the disease is not detected until it reaches the advanced stage, the five-year survival rate plummets to a devastating 25 percent.

As there is still no reliable and easy-to-administer screening test for ovarian cancer, like the Pap smear for cervical cancer or the mammogram for breast cancer, early recognition of symptoms is clearly the best way to save a woman's life. Without increased education about ovarian cancer and recognition of women who are at higher risk for developing ovarian cancer, many women and their doctors will continue to ignore or misinterpret the symptoms of the disease. Any woman is at risk for developing a gynecological cancer. We owe it to our mothers, our wives and our daughters to do all we can to both raise awareness of these terrible diseases, and to fund the research necessary to stamp out this kind of cancer once and for all.

Johanna's Law is a giant step forward because for the first time ever, the Secretary of Health and Human Services will have explicit authority to carry out a national campaign to increase the awareness and knowledge of women with respect to gynecological cancers, which shall include: (1) maintaining a supply of written materials to provide information to the public on gynecological cancers; and (2) developing and placing public service announcements to encourage women to discuss their risks of gynecological cancers with their physicians. The bill also requires the Secretary to study current and past outreach and education activities and then to develop a strategy to improve the way we increase awareness and knowledge of both the public and health care providers with respect to different types of cancer, including gynecological cancer.

I personally think we need to do more to attack this problem, but I am confident that with a national Public Service Announcement campaign describing risk factors and symptoms and encouraging women to talk to their doctors about their risk of gynecological cancers, we can and will increase early detection of these deadly cancers; and, when possible, help women reduce their risk of ever contracting them in the first place.

Johanna's Law is a good bill, it is good public policy. I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I urge our colleagues in the Senate to act quickly and move this critically needed legislation to the President's desk for his signature. This is literally a matter of life and death.

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, the House of Representatives passed H.R. 1245, known as "Johanna's Law," which will increase the awareness and knowledge of gynecologic cancers. This legislation authorizes a national campaign to increase awareness of gynecologic cancers—including the creation of written information to distribute to the public.

This legislation was named after a constituent of mine, Johanna, who was diagnosed with ovarian cancer in 1997. Johanna was a healthy and active 54-year-old woman who had retired from teaching from Southfield Lathrup High School when she was diagnosed. It was a shock to Johanna and her family when they received the devastating news. Sadly, the cancer was not caught in time and she passed away on August 29, 2000.

Each year, more than 80,000 women are diagnosed with a gynecologic cancer. One-third—or 28,000—of these women will die from the disease. Survival rates drop 50 percent or less if the cancer is not diagnosed early.

Early detection is critical to successfully treat gynecologic cancers. Many symptoms of this type of cancer often resemble non-threatening illnesses. Furthermore, many gynecologic cancers do not have a reliable screening test for the general public to utilize.

It is important that we educate the American public on early detection and prevention of gynecologic cancers. Public awareness is crucial to curbing this deadly disease, and Johanna's Law will help spread knowledge that can save the lives of women that may die needlessly each year. I thank my colleagues for supporting the passage of "Johanna's Law."

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. DEAL) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1245, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds of those voting having responded in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SOBER TRUTH ON PREVENTING UNDERAGE DRINKING ACT

Mr. DEAL of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 864) to provide for programs and activities with respect to the prevention of underage drinking, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 864

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE; TABLE OF CONTENTS.

(a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the "Sober Truth on Preventing Underage Drinking Act, or the 'STOP Underage Drinking Act'".

(b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

Sec. 2. Definitions.

TITLE I—SENSE OF CONGRESS

Sec. 101. Sense of Congress.

TITLE II—INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COMMITTEE; ANNUAL REPORT ON STATE UNDERAGE DRINKING PREVENTION AND ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

Sec. 201. Interagency coordinating committee on the prevention of underage drinking.

Sec. 202. Annual report on State underage drinking prevention and enforcement activities.

Sec. 203. Authorization of appropriations.

TITLE III—NATIONAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN

Sec. 301. National media campaign to prevent underage drinking.

TITLE IV—INTERVENTIONS

Sec. 401. Community-based coalition enhancement grants to prevent underage drinking.

Sec. 402. Grants directed at preventing and reducing alcohol abuse at institutions of higher education.

TITLE V—ADDITIONAL RESEARCH

Sec. 501. Additional research on underage drinking.

Sec. 502. Authorization of appropriations.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

For purposes of this Act:

(1) The term "alcohol beverage industry" means the brewers, vintners, distillers, importers, distributors, and retail or online outlets that sell or serve beer, wine, and distilled spirits.

(2) The term "school-based prevention" means programs, which are institutionalized, and run by staff members or school-designated persons or organizations in any grade of school, kindergarten through 12th grade.

(3) The term "youth" means persons under the age of 21.

(4) The term "IOM report" means the report released in September 2003 by the National Research Council, Institute of Medicine, and entitled "Reducing Underage Drinking: A Collective Responsibility".

TITLE I—SENSE OF CONGRESS

SEC. 101. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of the Congress that:

(1) A multi-faceted effort is needed to more successfully address the problem of underage drinking in the United States. A coordinated approach to prevention, intervention, treatment, enforcement, and research is key to making progress. This Act recognizes the need for a focused national effort, and ad-

resses particulars of the Federal portion of that effort, as well as Federal support for State activities.

(2) The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall continue to conduct research and collect data on the short and long-range impact of alcohol use and abuse upon adolescent brain development and other organ systems.

(3) States and communities, including colleges and universities, are encouraged to adopt comprehensive prevention approaches, including—

(A) evidence-based screening, programs and curricula;

(B) brief intervention strategies;

(C) consistent policy enforcement; and

(D) environmental changes that limit underage access to alcohol.

(4) Public health groups, consumer groups, and the alcohol beverage industry should continue and expand evidence-based efforts to prevent and reduce underage drinking.

(5) The entertainment industries have a powerful impact on youth, and they should use rating systems and marketing codes to reduce the likelihood that underage audiences will be exposed to movies, recordings, or television programs with unsuitable alcohol content.

(6) The National Collegiate Athletic Association, its member colleges and universities, and athletic conferences should affirm a commitment to a policy of discouraging alcohol use among underage students and other young fans.

(7) Alcohol is a unique product and should be regulated differently than other products by the States and Federal Government. States have primary authority to regulate alcohol distribution and sale, and the Federal Government should support and supplement these State efforts. States also have a responsibility to fight youth access to alcohol and reduce underage drinking. Continued State regulation and licensing of the manufacture, importation, sale, distribution, transportation and storage of alcoholic beverages are clearly in the public interest and are critical to promoting responsible consumption, preventing illegal access to alcohol by persons under 21 years of age from commercial and non-commercial sources, maintaining industry integrity and an orderly marketplace, and furthering effective State tax collection.

TITLE II—INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COMMITTEE; ANNUAL REPORT ON STATE UNDERAGE DRINKING PREVENTION AND ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITIES

SEC. 201. INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COMMITTEE ON THE PREVENTION OF UNDERAGE DRINKING.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Health and Human Services, in collaboration with the Federal officials specified in subsection (b), shall formally establish and enhance the efforts of the interagency coordinating committee, that began operating in 2004, focusing on underage drinking (referred to in this section as the "Committee").

(b) OTHER AGENCIES.—The officials referred to in subsection (a) are the Secretary of Education, the Attorney General, the Secretary of Transportation, the Secretary of the Treasury, the Secretary of Defense, the Surgeon General, the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the Director of the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, the Administrator of the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, the Director of the National Institute on Drug Abuse, the Assistant Secretary for Children and Families, the Director of the Office of National Drug Control