Public Law 101-415
101st Congress

Joint Resolution

Oct. 11, 1990
[S.J. Res. 301]

Designating October 1990 as "National Breast Cancer Awareness Month".

Whereas breast cancer will strike an estimated 150,000 women and 900 men in the United States in 1990;

Whereas one out of every ten women will develop breast cancer at some point in her life;

Whereas the risk of developing breast cancer increases as a woman grows older;

Whereas breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in women, killing an estimated 43,000 women and 300 men in 1989;

Whereas the 5-year survival rate for localized breast cancer has risen from 78 percent in the 1940s to over 90 percent today;

Whereas most breast cancers are detected by the woman herself;

Whereas educating both the public and physicians about the importance of early detection will result in reducing breast cancer mortality;

Whereas appropriate use of screening mammography, in conjunction with clinical examination and breast self-examination, can result in the detection of many breast cancers early in their development and increase the survival rate to nearly 100 percent;

Whereas data from controlled trials clearly demonstrate that deaths from breast cancer are significantly reduced in women over the age of 40 by using mammography as a screening tool;

Whereas women do not have mammograms for a variety of reasons, such as the cost of testing, lack of information, and fear;

Whereas access to screening mammography is directly related to socioeconomic status;

Whereas increased awareness about the importance of screening mammography will result in the procedure being regularly requested by the patient and recommended by the health care provider; and

Whereas it is projected that more women will use this lifesaving test as it becomes increasingly available and affordable: Now, therefore, be it

AUTHENTICATED
U.S. GOVERNMENT
INFORMATION
GPO

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That October 1990 is designated as "National Breast Cancer Awareness Month", and the President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe the month with appropriate programs and activities.

Approved October 11, 1990.

LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S.J. Res. 301:

CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 136 (1990):
June 18, considered and passed Senate.
Oct. 1, considered and passed House.