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REPLY TO:

TO: All Senators

DATE: September 19, 2012

FROM: Senator Christine M. Tartaglione

Senator Richard Kasunic

SUBJECT: Co-sponsorship of Resolution:
Breast Cancer Awareness Month

Every day, breast cancer touches the lives of individuals across this state and nation. It is a disease of personal significance to both of us, as it has touched each of our families. Not only is it the most commonly diagnosed cancer among women in the United States -- one in eight women in the United States will be diagnosed with breast cancer during their lifetime regardless of their race or ethnicity -- but also, it affects men. In fact, one out of every hundred patients diagnosed with breast cancer is male.

While these statistics seem grim, nearly all breast cancers can be overcome successfully if they are found and treated promptly. When diagnosed at its earliest stage, the five-year survival rate for this disease is 93%. Unfortunately, men are typically diagnosed at a late stage due to lack of awareness about the breast cancer's impact on the male population.

To help raise awareness of this disease and the importance of early diagnosis in combating it, please join us in marking October 2012 as Breast Cancer Awareness Month in Pennsylvania.

If you would like to co-sponsor this resolution, please contact Elizabeth Gray at (717)787-1141 or egray@pasenate.com.