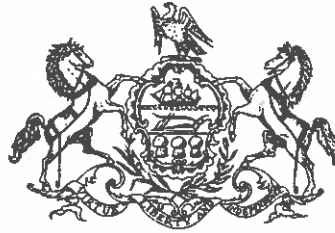


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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

COMMITTEES

ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES & ENERGY
LOCAL GOVERNMENT
STATE GOVERNMENT
TRANSPORTATION

DELEGATION

SOUTHEAST

DATE: September 21, 2012
TO: All House Members
FROM: Rep. Steve Santasiero
SUBJECT: Request for Co-sponsorship: Recognizing September 2012 as Thyroid Cancer Awareness Month

When we return to session later this month, I intend to introduce a resolution recognizing September 2012 as "Thyroid Cancer Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.

According to the National Cancer Institute, more than 56,000 Americans will be diagnosed with thyroid cancer in 2012 with 43, 210 of those cases expected to be women. A 2010 report issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention stated that Pennsylvania had the highest number of thyroid cancer cases of any state for the period 2001-2005 at 12.8 per 100,000 residents.

The chance of being diagnosed with thyroid cancer is now twice what it was in 1990. Ultrasound tests are partially responsible for this increase as they have the ability to identify small tumors not recognized previously with other diagnostic tools. Another contributing factor is the increased use of medical tests utilizing radiation such as CAT scans.

The good news is that the mortality rate for thyroid cancer is relatively low in comparison with other cancers. As with other conditions, early detection and treatment are key to survival.

Please join with me in this effort to increase public awareness of this disease by cosponsoring this resolution. To add your name to the list of cosponsors, please contact my Legislative Assistant, Kat Manucci, at 7-5475 or kmanucci@pahouse.net.