

TO: All Senators

DATE: October 2, 2018

FROM: Senator Christine M. Tartaglione

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

In the near future, I intend to introduce a resolution designating October 2018 as Breast Cancer Awareness Month in Pennsylvania.

Breast cancer affects all individuals across this state and nation. It is a disease of personal significance to me, as it has directly touched my family. 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 some men. In fact, one out of every hundred patients diagnosed with breast cancer is male.

While these statistics seem grim, nearly all types of breast cancer 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 100%. Unfortunately, men are typically diagnosed at a late stage due to a lack of awareness about breast cancer's impact on the male population.

In 1993 President Bill Clinton established the third Friday of October as "National Mammography Day" to encourage women, particularly those in high risk groups to make a mammography appointment during the month of October.

To help raise awareness of this disease and the importance of early diagnosis in combating it, please join me in marking October 2018 as Breast Cancer Awareness Month and October 19th as National Mammography Day.