

Monroe County Legislature

CARRIE M. ANDREWS
ASSISTANT DEMOCRATIC LEADER

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Not to be removed from the Office of the Legislature Of Monroe County
Committee Assignment
Memorializing Referral -L

May 6, 2009

To the Honorable
Monroe County Legislature
407 County Office Building
39 West Main Street
Rochester, New York 14614

Re: Memorializing the United States Congress to Pass and President Barack H. Obama to Sign into the Breast Cancer Education and Awareness Requires Learning (EARLY) Act.

Honorable Legislators:

Although great strides have been made in the fight against breast cancer, there remains no standardized effective breast cancer screening tool for women under 40 years of age. The absence of a standardized screening process specifically designed for younger women often leads to later stage detection for the over 11,000 of them who will be diagnosed each year. Women stricken with breast cancer at a younger age often experience more aggressive types of the disease, resulting in lower survival rates. Breast cancer remains the leading cause of cancer death in women ages fifteen to fifty-four.

The importance of reducing risk factors and promoting early detection cannot be overstated. Early detection of breast cancer is one of the most critical factors in beating this all too common disease. In response to the lack of resources and attention dedicated to breast cancer prevention and screening for women under forty, U.S. Representative Debbie Wasserman Schultz (D-FL) has introduced the Breast Cancer Education and Awareness Requires Learning (EARLY) Act. Rep. Wasserman Schultz is a young breast cancer survivor herself, diagnosed at the age of 41.

Rep. Wasserman Schultz's Early Act is a landmark proposal that calls for launching a national campaign to raise awareness about breast cancer in women under forty and specifically educate young women about risk factors. In summary, the legislation proposes a national public awareness campaign that will target young women, especially those considered most at risk; a health provider education initiative geared to enhance medical providers understanding of the concerns specific to women under forty battling breast cancer, such as fertility and child care; and it establishes grant funding for support and assistance programs for young women diagnosed with breast cancer.



It is vitally important that women under forty years of age be aware of their risk for breast cancer, the warning signs of the disease and the importance of early detection. It is also crucial to the health and wellbeing of young breast cancer survivors' that their unique concerns be addressed by their medical professionals. On behalf of all women, we ask that you join in the ongoing fight against breast cancer by memorializing the United States Congress to Pass and President Barack H. Obama to Sign into law the Breast Cancer Education and Awareness Requires Learning (EARLY) Act.

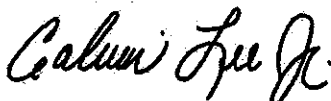
Respectfully submitted,



Carrie M. Andrews
Assistant Minority Leader



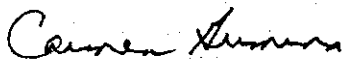
Harry B. Bronson
Democratic Minority Leader



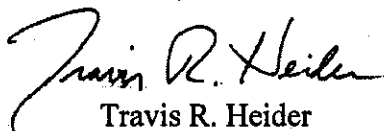
Calvin Lee, Jr.
Assistant Minority Leader



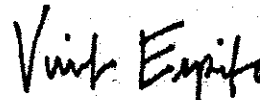
Richard A. Beebe
Legislator - District 6



Carmen F. Gumina
Legislator - District 8



Travis R. Heider
Legislator - District 14



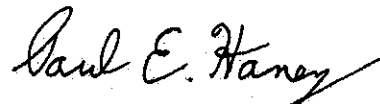
Vincent Esposito
Legislator - District 16



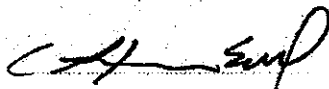
Ted O'Brien
Legislator - District 17



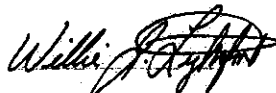
Glenn J. Gamble
Legislator - District 22



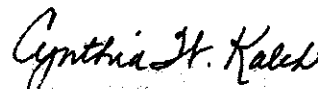
Paul E. Haney
Legislator - District 23



C. Stephen Eckel
Legislator - District 26



Willie Joe Lightfoot
Legislator - District 27



Cynthia W. Kaleh
Legislator - District 28



José A. Cruz
Legislator - District 29