

April \_\_\_\_, 2006

**HELP FIGHT GYNECOLOGIC CANCERS  
SIGN ON TO A BIPARTISAN DELEGATION LETTER**

Dear Johanna's Law Cosponsor:

Thank you for your continued support of HR 1245, "The Gynecologic Cancers Education and Awareness Act." We are writing to encourage you to continue your support by signing the attached bipartisan delegation letter to House Energy and Commerce Committee Chairman Joe Barton urging him to hold a hearing on Johanna's Law.

HR 1245 has been referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce. As Chairman Barton begins putting together the Committee's health agenda for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress, we want to encourage him to include educating the public about gynecologic cancers as part of the health discussion this year. A hearing on the goals of Johanna's Law would provide for the needed record for the legislative process and it would provide a valuable opportunity to educate Members of the Committee, their staff and the public on the importance of early detection, knowing the symptoms and knowing your family history on gynecologic cancers.

A 2005 survey found that although more than half of the women surveyed believe they are at risk of gynecologic cancers, nearly 60% did not know how to reduce their risk factors and nearly half did not know any of the warning signs. Because gynecologic cancers are highly treatable if detected early, a larger and more effective public information effort could save many of the estimated 26,000 women who will die from a gynecologic cancer.

Again, thank you for your strong support of Johanna's Law and preventing gynecologic cancer deaths. Please feel free to contact us or our staff, Brian Fauls (Rep. Burton) at 5-2276, Morna Miller (Rep. Levin) at 5-4961, or Paige Anderson (Rep. Issa) at 3-3906, if you would like to sign the letter or have any questions.

Sincerely,

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Dan Burton  
Member of Congress

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Sander Levin  
Member of Congress

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Darrell Issa  
Member of Congress

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Rosa DeLauro  
Member of Congress

April 28, 2006

The Honorable Joe Barton  
Chairman, House Committee on Energy and Commerce  
2125 Rayburn House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Barton:

As you put together your health agenda and schedule of hearings for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 109<sup>th</sup> Congress, we urge the Committee to include H.R. 1245, "the Gynecologic Cancer Education and Awareness Act of 2005," as one of its legislative priorities.

With 240 cosponsors, H.R. 1245 enjoys strong bipartisan support. The need for an effective, well-coordinated education program targeting the public and medical professionals cannot be understated. Every seven minutes a woman will be diagnosed with a gynecologic cancer. Last year, over 82,000 women were diagnosed and over 27,000 women died from a gynecologic cancer. A 2005 survey found that although more than half of the women surveyed believe they are at risk of a gynecologic cancer, nearly 60% did not know how to reduce their risk factors and nearly half of the women surveyed did not know any of the warning signs. Because gynecologic cancers are highly treatable if diagnosed early, a better coordinated and effective public information effort will save lives. When diagnosed at the early stages, the five year survivability rate for these cancers is over 95%.

A hearing on HR 1245 will serve two important goals. It will provide a strong hearing record for the legislative process. More importantly, it will be a valuable opportunity to educate Members of Congress, their staff and the public on the importance of early detection, knowing the risk factors, knowing symptoms and learning your family health history on gynecologic cancers.

Thank you for your consideration, Mr. Chairman. We look forward to working with you on this important issue.

Sincerely,

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Darrell Issa, M.C.

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Sander Levin, M.C.

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Dan Burton, M.C.

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Kay Granger, M.C.

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Rosa DeLauro, M.C.

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Chris Cannon, M.C.