

Public Law 103-84  
103d Congress

Joint Resolution

Sept. 21, 1993  
[S.J. Res. 95]

To designate October 1993 as "National Breast Cancer Awareness Month".

- Whereas breast cancer will strike an estimated 182,000 women and 1,000 men in the United States in 1993;
- Whereas the risk of developing breast cancer increases as a woman grows older;
- Whereas breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death in women, and will kill an estimated 46,000 women and 300 men in 1993;
- Whereas the 5-year survival rate for localized breast cancer has risen from 78 percent in the 1940's to over 90 percent today;
- Whereas most breast cancers are detected by the woman herself;
- Whereas educating both the public and health care providers about the importance of early detection will result in reducing breast cancer mortality;
- Whereas appropriate use of screening mammography, in conjunction with clinical examination and breast self-examination, can result in the detection of many breast cancers early in their development and increase the survival rate to nearly 100 percent;
- Whereas data from controlled trials clearly demonstrate that deaths from breast cancer are significantly reduced in women who have been screened by mammography;
- Whereas many women are reluctant to have screening mammograms for a variety of reasons, such as the cost of testing, lack of information, or fear;
- Whereas access to screening mammography is directly related to socioeconomic status;
- Whereas increased awareness about the importance of screening mammography will result in the procedure being regularly requested by the patient and recommended by the health care provider; and
- Whereas it is projected that more women will use this lifesaving test as it becomes increasingly available and affordable: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That October*

1993 is designated as “National Breast Cancer Awareness Month” and the President is authorized and requested to issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe the month with appropriate programs and activities.

Approved September 21, 1993.

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**LEGISLATIVE HISTORY—S.J. Res. 95:**

**CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, Vol. 139 (1993):**  
July 23, considered and passed Senate.  
Sept. 14, considered and passed House.