
Relating to: designating September 2019 and 2020 as Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

Whereas, ovarian cancer is the deadliest of all gynecologic cancers and is most common in postmenopausal women; and

Whereas, ovarian cancer ranks tenth in rates of new cancer cases among women in the United States, but ranks fifth among cancer deaths for women, and is the leading cause of death from cancer of the female reproductive system; and

Whereas, ovarian cancer accounts for 1.3 percent of all new cancer cases for women, but 2.3 percent of all cancer deaths; and

Whereas, every woman is at risk for ovarian cancer regardless of age, heritage, or medical history, and women with a family history of ovarian cancer and other genetic factors are at an even higher risk; and

Whereas, approximately 230,000 women in the United States are living with ovarian cancer; and
Whereas, the incidence of and mortality from ovarian cancer in Wisconsin are both slightly higher than the national average; and

Whereas, fewer than 48 percent of women diagnosed with ovarian cancer survive beyond five years; and

Whereas, ovarian cancer may not cause early symptoms, and diagnosis of ovarian cancer, therefore, often does not occur until the disease has reached an advanced stage, at which point the cancer may spread to other parts of the body. Although the five-year survival rate for Stage 1 ovarian cancer is more than 90 percent, only 15 percent of ovarian cancers are diagnosed at Stage 1; and

Whereas, the five-year survival rate for late-stage ovarian cancer is below 30 percent; and

Whereas, while a mammogram can detect breast cancer and a pap smear can detect cervical cancer, there is no reliable early detection test for ovarian cancer; and

Whereas, additional ovarian cancer research and clinical trials are urgently needed to develop prevention strategies, early detection tools, and better therapies, in hopes of eventually finding a cure; and

Whereas, awareness and education are crucial. Women’s lives will be saved through public awareness about ovarian cancer and its risk factors, signs, and symptoms; now, therefore, be it

**Resolved by the assembly, the senate concurring, That** the legislature proclaims September 2019 and 2020 to be Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month in Wisconsin.

(END)