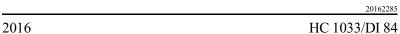


HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. _____

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the recognition of January as Cervical Cancer Awareness Month.

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, read first time and referred to Committ	ee on





HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION urging the recognition of January as Cervical Cancer Awareness Month.

Whereas, Nearly 13,000 women are diagnosed with cervical cancer each year in the United States, and more than 4,000 die as a result;

Whereas, In Indiana approximately 250 women are diagnosed each year, and every three days a woman dies of cervical cancer, including 85 Indiana women annually;

Whereas, From 2002 to 2011, African-American women had a 22 percent higher cervical cancer incidence rate and a 50 percent higher mortality rate than Caucasian women;

Whereas, Hispanic women have the highest cervical cancer incidence rate in the nation;

Whereas, Cervical cancer is almost 100 percent preventable;

Whereas, Many women are unaware of cervical cancer and the steps that can be taken to prevent this disease;

Whereas, Mortality from cervical cancer is associated with being diagnosed at a later stage, which often stems from poor access to preventive services and a lack of understanding about following up or care after an abnormal finding;



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Whereas, HPV (human papillomavirus) is a very common infection and is a major cause of cervical cancer;

Whereas, Approximately 79 million Americans currently have HPV, but many do not know they are infected;

Whereas, We honor Ms. Melissa Beeson, a cervical cancer survivor, for her efforts in bringing continued attention to this preventable disease; and

Whereas, Awareness of cervical cancer, its risk factors, and the importance of access to preventive measures, including regular Pap tests and the HPV vaccination, are critical to perpetuating the continual decrease of the incidence of cervical cancer in women: Therefore,

> Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana, the Senate concurring:

SECTION 1. That the Indiana General Assembly urges the recognition of January as Cervical Cancer Awareness Month in the hope that this recognition will encourage prompt access to preventive services and high-quality medical care and treatment in order to overcome existing barriers to care for all women.

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