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SENATE PASSES THE NATIONAL OVARIAN CANCER AWARENESS MONTH RESOLUTION

The Ovarian Cancer National Alliance Continues to Lead the Efforts on Capitol Hill

Washington, D.C. – *September 17, 2009.* The National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month Resolution (S. Res. 267) has been passed by Unanimous Consent in the Senate. The Resolution declares September as Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month and addresses the need for an early detection test and the importance of early diagnosis of ovarian cancer.

The Resolution also states that “each year during the month of September, the Ovarian Cancer National Alliance holds a number of events to increase public awareness of ovarian cancer.”

Senators Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) and George Voinovich (R-OH) introduced the Resolution and were joined by Senator Evan Bayh (D-IN), Senator Michael Bennet (D-CO), Senator Barbara Boxer (D-CA), Senator Al Franken (D-MN), Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX), Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), and Senator Robert Mendendez (D-NJ) as original co-sponsors.

“By recognizing September as National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, we are able to help educate the community and shed some light on this disease,” Stabenow said. “The best way to combat ovarian cancer is to increase awareness and join in the fight to conquer it.”

Senator Voinovich, when asked about the importance of the Resolution, said that, “National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month serves as an important reminder for women to stay vigilant when it comes to their own health. One in 72 women will develop ovarian cancer in their lifetime, but the overall survival rate is 93 percent if the cancer is diagnosed at an early stage before it has spread. Information is power when it comes to our fight against this tragic disease.” The Senator continues by saying, “I understand how important early detection and treatment are. When I was Governor of Ohio, we began the Breast and Cervical Cancer Project to provide education, better screening and treatment for these cancers. In the same spirit, I encourage you to take time this month to visit www.ovariancancer.org and to speak with your doctor to become more familiar with this deadly disease and its newly defined symptoms.”

“We work hard to advance the interest of women with ovarian cancer. This Resolution will help us continue to lead efforts increasing awareness about this deadly disease,” explains Karen Orloff Kaplan, CEO of the Ovarian Cancer National Alliance.

Established in 1997, the Ovarian Cancer National Alliance is the foremost advocate for ovarian cancer in the United States. Until there is a cure for the disease, the Ovarian Cancer National Alliance, a 501(c) (3) organization, leads the national initiative to conquer ovarian cancer by uniting individuals and organizations at the local, state, and national levels to advance ovarian cancer research in the quest for early detection tests, improved health care practices, and development of life-saving treatment protocols.

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For more information on this topic or to schedule an interview, please contact Georgi Morales, Director of Marketing and Communications, via email at gmorales@ovariancancer.org or call (202)331-1332.