

107<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# S. CON. RES. 138

Expressing the sense of Congress that the Secretary of Health and Human Services should conduct or support research on certain tests to screen for ovarian cancer, and Federal health care programs and group and individual health plans should cover the tests if demonstrated to be effective, and for other purposes.

---

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 9, 2002

Mr. REID (for himself and Ms. CANTWELL) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

---

## CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of Congress that the Secretary of Health and Human Services should conduct or support research on certain tests to screen for ovarian cancer, and Federal health care programs and group and individual health plans should cover the tests if demonstrated to be effective, and for other purposes.

Whereas ovarian cancer is a serious and under recognized threat to women's health;

Whereas ovarian cancer, the deadliest of the gynecologic cancers, is the fourth leading cause of cancer death among women in the United States

Whereas ovarian cancer occurs in 1 out of 57 women in the United States;

Whereas approximately 50 percent of the women in the United States diagnosed with ovarian cancer die as a result of the cancer within 5 years;

Whereas ovarian cancer is readily treatable when it is detected in the beginning stages before it has spread beyond the ovaries, but the vast majority of cases are not diagnosed until the advanced stages when the cancer has spread beyond the ovaries;

Whereas in cases where ovarian cancer is detected in the beginning stages, more than 90 percent of women survive longer than 5 years;

Whereas only 25 percent of ovarian cancer cases in the United States are diagnosed in the beginning stages;

Whereas in cases where ovarian cancer is diagnosed in the advanced stages, the chance of 5-year survival is only about 25 percent; and

Whereas ovarian cancer may be difficult to detect because symptoms are easily confused with other diseases and because there is no reliable, easy-to-administer screening tool: Now, therefore, be it

1        *Resolved by the Senate (the House of Representatives*  
2 *concurring)*, That it is the sense of Congress that—

3            (1) the Secretary of Health and Human Serv-  
4            ices, acting through the Director of the National In-  
5            stitutes of Health—

6            (A) should conduct or support research on  
7            the effectiveness of the medical screening tech-

1           nique of using proteomic patterns in blood  
2           serum to identify ovarian cancer, including the  
3           effectiveness of using the technique in combina-  
4           tion with other screening methods for ovarian  
5           cancer; and

6                   (B) should continue to conduct or support  
7           other promising ovarian cancer research that  
8           may lead to breakthroughs in screening tech-  
9           niques;

10           (2) the Secretary of Health and Human Serv-  
11           ices should submit to Congress a report on the re-  
12           search described in paragraph (1)(A), including an  
13           analysis of the effectiveness of the medical screening  
14           technique for identifying ovarian cancer; and

15           (3) if the research demonstrates that the med-  
16           ical screening technique is effective for identifying  
17           ovarian cancer, Federal health care programs and  
18           group and individual health plans should cover the  
19           technique.

○