

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 55

By Briggs

A RESOLUTION recognizing National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, September 2025.

WHEREAS, ovarian cancer is the fifth leading cause of cancer deaths of women in the United States and causes more deaths than any other gynecologic cancer; and

WHEREAS, in the United States, a woman's lifetime risk of being diagnosed with ovarian cancer is approximately 1 in 78; and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society estimates that about 20,890 cases of ovarian cancer will be newly diagnosed in 2025, and 12,740 women will die from the disease nationwide, including 380 new cases and 300 deaths in Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the five-year survival rate for ovarian cancer is fifty percent, but survival rates vary greatly depending on the stage of diagnosis; and

WHEREAS, the five-year survival rate for ovarian cancer is over ninety percent for individuals diagnosed in early stages; and

WHEREAS, women of color, low-income women, and women living in rural areas have more barriers to accessing standard quality of care and are more likely to receive care at a facility that has poorer adherence to National Comprehensive Cancer Network treatment guidelines; and

WHEREAS, too many people remain unaware that the symptoms of ovarian cancer often include bloating, pelvic or abdominal pain, difficulty eating or feeling full quickly, urinary symptoms, and several other vague symptoms that are often easily confused with other diseases; and

WHEREAS, the lack of an early detection test for ovarian cancer, combined with its vague symptoms, means that approximately eighty percent of ovarian cancer cases are detected at an advanced stage; and

WHEREAS, guidelines issued by the National Comprehensive Cancer Network and the Society of Gynecologic Oncology recommend that all individuals diagnosed with ovarian cancer receive genetic counseling and genetic testing, regardless of their family history; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we join in the recognition of National Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, September 2025, to increase public awareness of ovarian cancer.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy and upon proper request made to the appropriate clerk, the language appearing immediately following the State seal appear without House or Senate designation.