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**ACR-221 Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.** (2023-2024)

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**Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 221**

**CHAPTER 193**

Relative to Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

[ Filed with Secretary of State August 28, 2024. ]

**LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST**

ACR 221, Papan. Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

This measure would proclaim the month of September 2024 as Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

Fiscal Committee: no

WHEREAS, Ovarian cancer is the deadliest of all female reproductive system cancers; and

WHEREAS, The American Cancer Society estimates that in 2024, approximately 19,680 women will be newly diagnosed with ovarian cancer; and

WHEREAS, In 2024, it is estimated that approximately 12,740 women will die in the United States from ovarian cancer. Many women are not diagnosed until the disease has begun to spread, but if the disease is detected at its earliest stage (Stage 1), the five-year survival rate is more than 94 percent. The symptoms of ovarian cancer are often subtle and easily confused with other ailments; and

WHEREAS, Approximately 50 percent of new cases of ovarian cancer are diagnosed in women over 63 years of age. Women between 25 and 54 years of age account for approximately 25 percent of the cases; and

WHEREAS, One in 87 women will be diagnosed with ovarian cancer during their lifetime; and

WHEREAS, Most new cases of ovarian cancer are diagnosed at Stage 3 or later, meaning the cancer has already begun to spread to the lymph nodes and outside of the pelvis; and

WHEREAS, The lives of mothers and daughters will be taken too soon, and the pain of this disease will touch too many families; and

WHEREAS, During Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, we honor the loved ones we have lost to this disease and all those who battle it today, and we continue our work to improve care and raise awareness about ovarian cancer; and

WHEREAS, When ovarian cancer is found in its early stages, treatment is most effective and the chances for recovery are greatest. However, ovarian cancer is difficult to detect early. There is no simple and reliable way to screen for this disease, symptoms are often not clear until later stages, and most women are diagnosed without being at high risk; and

WHEREAS, That is why it is important for all women to pay attention to their bodies and know what is normal for them. Women who experience unexplained changes, including abdominal pain, pressure, and swelling, should talk with their health care providers; and

WHEREAS, Ovarian cancer and the hardship it brings have affected too many lives. This September, our state stands with everyone who has been touched by this disease, and we recognize all those committed to advancing the fight against this cancer through research, advocacy, and quality care. Together, let us renew our commitment to reducing the impact of ovarian cancer and to a future free from cancer in all its forms; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate thereof concurring, That the Legislature proclaims the month of September 2024 as Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month; and be it further

Resolved, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.