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It may surprise you to learn that pancreatic cancer is the fourth leading cause of cancer-related death in our country. More than 37,000 Americans will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer this year, and most of them will die within months from it. Pancreatic cancer is one of the most lethal—and most overlooked—types of cancer. While overall cancer death rates have steadily declined, the number of Americans dying from pancreatic cancer has increased.

The *National Plan to Advance Pancreatic Cancer Research Act* will establish a national Pancreatic Cancer Initiative to provide a greater focus on this disease and give the National Cancer Institute the tools it needs to come up with ways to diagnosis this disease earlier, treat it much earlier and perhaps one day prevent it. A more detailed description of the bill is attached.

Since the War on Cancer was declared in 1971, we have made great strides in addressing many forms of cancer but have made little progress during this time against pancreatic cancer. We believe the time has come to ensure that progress is made on this devastating disease. The National Plan to Advance Pancreatic Cancer Research Act marks an important first step towards conquering pancreatic cancer. We urge you to join me as a cosponsor of this important legislation. Please contact Erin Katzelnick-Wise at 225-8104 for more information or to become a cosponsor.