

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

IT'S TIME FOR A DEATH DEFYING STRATEGY

Cosponsor the *Pancreatic Cancer Research & Education Act (H.R. 745)*

June 22, 2010

Dear Colleague:


You may be surprised to learn from one of the nearly 500 pancreatic cancer advocates who are on the Hill this week that pancreatic cancer is the only major cancer with a five-year survival rate of 6%. Even more surprising, this statistic hasn't significantly changed in nearly 40 years. We're particularly concerned because the number of pancreatic cancer cases is projected to increase by 55% in the next two decades. Our approach to this disease must change if we're going to meet the challenges of today and tomorrow.

The *Pancreatic Cancer Research & Education Act* would change these statistics by authorizing the National Cancer Institute (NCI) to develop a strategic plan to fight pancreatic cancer and give patients real hope for survival. This is not a standard disease-specific bill. It leaves the science to NCI, and helps NCI develop a solid research plan for attacking this disease which is the fourth leading cause of cancer-related death. It would provide a defined roadmap for success instead of leaving the needed discoveries to chance.

There are currently no early detection tools or treatments for pancreatic cancer and we don't have the luxury of waiting another 40 years to develop these tools. There are over 180 bipartisan colleagues who by their cosponsorship say the time has come to ensure that progress is made on this devastating disease. We urge you to join us as a co-sponsor of this important legislation. Should you have any questions or need information, you can contact Erin.Katzelnick-Wise@mail.house.gov (5-8104) or Justin.Grabelle@mail.house.gov (5-1002).

Sincerely,


Anna G. Eshoo
Member of Congress


Ginny Brown-Waite
Member of Congress