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1 SENATE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, Thousands of families across Illinois are
3 affected by metastatic breast cancer; and

4 WHEREAS, Much of the talk around breast cancer focuses on
5 early detection and routine diagnosis, where we have seen
6 tremendous progress in the last 30 years; and

7 WHEREAS, The story for advanced disease is quite different;
8 metastatic breast cancer patients continue to face many unique
9 challenges, such as the emotional and physical demands of
10 continual treatment; and

11 WHEREAS, Currently no cure exists for metastatic breast
12 cancer and many of those with metastatic breast cancer will
13 continue treatment with the goal of extending the best quality
14 of life possible; and

15 WHEREAS, One in eight women in the U.S. could be diagnosed
16 with breast cancer; specifically in Illinois, it is expected
17 that 11,560 women will be diagnosed with breast cancer in 2019;
18 and

19 WHEREAS, In the U.S., it is estimated that over 154,000
20 women have metastatic breast cancer; this devastating stage of

1 breast cancer occurs when cancer spreads beyond the breast to
2 other parts of the body, including the bones, lungs, liver, and
3 brain; and

4 WHEREAS, In 2019, it is estimated that more than 1,720
5 women in Illinois will die of breast cancer, nearly all due to
6 metastatic breast cancer; and

7 WHEREAS, Metastatic breast cancer affects all races and
8 socioeconomic classes; while Caucasian women see slightly
9 higher incidence rates of breast cancer, the mortality rate for
10 African-American women with breast cancer is 39 percent higher
11 than that of Caucasian women, and breast cancer is the leading
12 cause of cancer-related death for Hispanic women; and

13 WHEREAS, The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
14 defines health equity as when every person has the opportunity
15 to "attain his or her full health potential"; and

16 WHEREAS, Any discussions of breast cancer should include
17 the spectrum from screening through the treatment of and
18 support of those with metastatic breast cancer; and

19 WHEREAS, Metastatic breast cancer cuts short the lives of
20 too many people in Illinois, leaving a lasting effect on their
21 families; and

1 WHEREAS, While there have been treatment advances in
2 metastatic breast cancer, many of those advances have
3 benefitted a subset of patients with specific types of
4 metastatic breast cancer; and

5 WHEREAS, While metastatic breast cancer remains incurable,
6 there is reason to be hopeful; extensive research efforts are
7 underway to address this high unmet need; and

8 WHEREAS, <https://ClinicalTrials.gov> is a searchable
9 database which provides patients, family members and the public
10 with information about current ongoing clinical research
11 studies; and

12 WHEREAS, Additional focus is needed on the needs of the
13 patient, promising research efforts in the development of more
14 effective treatments, and the personal and social burdens of
15 metastatic breast cancer for all women regardless of their
16 race, ethnicity, or economic status; and

17 WHEREAS, More research is needed for metastatic breast
18 cancer so that new and more effective treatments can be
19 developed, as well as a push for critical research and advanced
20 treatments for metastatic breast cancer; Metastatic Breast
21 Cancer Awareness Day is an opportunity to shed light on the

1 devastation metastatic breast cancer brings to communities
2 throughout the State; and

3 WHEREAS, Individuals diagnosed with metastatic breast
4 cancer can speak with their physician to learn more about the
5 disease and find support groups and services in their community
6 or online; therefore, be it

7 RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL
8 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we declare October 13,
9 2019 as "Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day" in the State
10 of Illinois; and be it further

11 RESOLVED, That the citizens of Illinois are urged to become
12 informed and aware of metastatic breast cancer and to support
13 funding for programs to reduce barriers to breast cancer
14 screening, detection, and treatment for underserved women.