

NEWS...

... from the Illinois House of Representatives

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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Rep. Fine Highlights State Resources Available to Detect Breast Cancer Early

GLENVIEW, Ill. – October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and state Rep. Laura Fine, D-Glenview, is encouraging residents to take part in efforts to increase awareness about the benefits of early detection.

“Families from across our community have been affected when a loved one has been diagnosed with breast cancer,” Fine said. “Through campaigns to increase awareness, more women are receiving early detection and treatment. However, too many women are still being diagnosed past the most curable stage of breast cancer.”

In the United States, approximately one in eight women will be diagnosed with breast cancer. According to the American Cancer Society, death rates due to breast cancer have steadily decreased as a result of increased awareness and early detection. However, only about 9 percent of women diagnosed with breast cancer in Illinois are detected at the earliest and most curable stage.

Fine supported efforts to increase early detection screenings through the Illinois Breast and Cervical Cancer Program (IBCCP). This initiative provides free mammograms to women between the ages of 40 and 64 who are uninsured and have an income below 250 percent of the federal poverty level. This program has helped thousands of women detect and treat cancer before it is too late. This early detection not only saves lives, but also averts much costlier medical treatments that are associated with the later stages of breast cancer. To find out if you are qualified to take part in these services, please call the IBCCP information line at 888-522-1282 or visit their website at cancerscreening.illinois.gov.

“Everyone should take a moment to talk to their loved ones about the easy steps they can take to win the fight against breast cancer,” Fine said. “I encourage residents to take advantage of the early detection resources available. I will continue pushing to increase access to much-needed medical services and supporting those affected by breast cancer.”

For more information, please call Fine’s constituent service office at 847-998-1717 or email RepFine@gmail.com.

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