

MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE B. BURKE

JANUARY 15, 2008

The Board of Supervisors traditionally proclaims January as Cervical Cancer Awareness Month to draw attention to the many activities planned throughout Los Angeles County to focus attention on the importance of the early detection and prevention of cervical cancer.

The latest data shows that 472 women in Los Angeles County were diagnosed with cervical cancer in 2004 and 141 women died of it - unnecessarily because cervical cancer is a preventable disease.

Although many strides have been made and the incidence and mortality of cervical cancer is decreasing, certain populations such as low-income women and women of color remain at high risk. With the FDA approval of the first vaccine against the Human Papillomavirus or HPV, there is an effective new weapon in our fight against this disease. However, since the HPV vaccine will prevent only 70% of cervical cancers, it is still important that women receive an annual Pap test.

To increase the number of underserved women screened, the Office of Women's Health provides access to free Pap testing for low-income women who call 1-800 793-8090, a multi-lingual hotline. No woman should die from this preventable disease.

- M O R E -

MOTION

MOLINA _____

YAROSLAVSKY _____

KNABE _____

ANTONOVICH _____

BURKE _____

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I, THEREFORE MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:

1. Proclaim the month of January 2008 as "Cervical Cancer Awareness Month" throughout Los Angeles County in recognition of the many activities to increase awareness that cervical cancer is preventable with routine screening exams that lead to its early detection and treatment;
2. Encourage County departments to provide educational activities for department staff, and to coordinate and participate in community outreach and screening activities during January 2008; and
3. Instruct the Auditor-Controller to work with the Director of Public Health in making arrangements to provide Cervical Cancer Awareness Month information on the January 15th, 2008 paychecks of all County employees.

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