



The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
STATE HOUSE, BOSTON 02133-1054

MARTIN J. WALSH
REPRESENTATIVE
13TH SUFFOLK DISTRICT

CHAIRMAN
COMMITTEE ON ETHICS

TEL: (617) 722-2020
FAX: (617) 722-2186
E-Mail: Martin.Walsh@MAhouse.gov

August 31, 2011

The Honorable Deval Patrick
Office of Constituent Affairs
State House Room 280
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Governor Patrick,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Deval", written over the name "Deval Patrick" in the salutation.

I am writing to ask that you issue a proclamation to declare October 18, 2011 as Inflammatory Breast Cancer Awareness Day.

Inflammatory Breast Cancer (IBC), although a rare disease, is an aggressive form of breast cancer. This form makes up 1 to 5 percent of all breast cancer cases in the U.S. IBC is a stage IIIB or stage IV cancer, cancer that has either spread locally in the body, or has rapidly spread to other organs in the body. Unlike other cancers, IBC is usually diagnosed in younger woman, especially woman of African American descent. The 5-year survival rate for people with Inflammatory Breast Cancer is between 25 and 50 percent, significantly lower than all breast cancer cases combined.

Susan Asci, an IBC survivor for over ten years, has been working as the President of the Inflammatory Breast Cancer Network of New England (ibc-ne.org) to spread awareness to the public about IBC and to increase the resources available to survivors in the New England area. If the proclamation is issued, the organization hopes to be able to hold an event to increase awareness of IBC on October 18, 2011.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact my office at (617) 722-2020.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Martin J. Walsh", written below the word "Sincerely,".

MARTIN J. WALSH
State Representative

CC: Rosemary Powers, Senior Director of Government Affairs