

ADVOCACY
ALLIANCE

Susan G.
Komen
FOR THE
Cure

May 19, 2008

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
2262 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Representative DeLauro:

The Susan G. Komen for the Cure Advocacy Alliance writes to offer its support for the "Breast Cancer Patient Protection Act of 2007" (H.R. 758), legislation you introduced that would amend the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 to require coverage for a minimum hospital stay for mastectomies, lumpectomies, and lymph node dissections for the treatment of breast cancer and coverage for secondary consultations.

The Komen Advocacy Alliance works tirelessly to ensure access to high quality care for all patients. We believe that decisions concerning the length of a patient's hospital stay subsequent to mastectomy, lumpectomy or lymph node dissection for the treatment of breast cancer should be made jointly by physicians and patients, rather than by insurance companies. Further, we believe that patients should be able to obtain secondary consultations to confirm or refute the diagnosis of breast cancer. We are committed to helping patients access high-quality care and encourage patients to talk to their doctors about all treatment decisions, including the length of any hospital stay.

The Komen Advocacy Alliance is a sister organization to Susan G. Komen for the Cure®, and is a next step in Komen's evolution: expanding our reach in the health policy arena. Susan G. Komen for the Cure is the world's largest grassroots network of breast cancer survivors and activists fighting to save lives, empower people, ensure quality care for all and energize science to find the cures. Thanks to events like the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure® — scheduled this year for June 7, 2008 on the National Mall — Komen for the Cure has invested \$1 billion to fulfill its promise, becoming the largest source of nonprofit funds dedicated to the fight against breast cancer in the world. To continue this progress, Komen for the Cure has pledged to invest another \$2 billion in the next ten years.

Thank you for introducing this legislation and for your strong history of support for women's health initiatives.

Sincerely,



Shelley Fuld Nasso
Director of Public Policy