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Congressman Lee M. Zeldin
First Congressional District of New York

July 15, 2016

The Honorable Fred Upton
Chairman, Committee on Energy & Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Frank Pallone
Committee on Energy & Commerce
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Upton and Ranking Member Pallone,

We write to you in support of an essential piece of legislation currently pending before your committee. H.R. 1197, the Accelerating the End of Breast Cancer Act is a widely bipartisan bill which currently maintains over 270 co-sponsors from over 40 different states. It is a commonsense piece of legislation which establishes a commission comprised of the leading researchers in the biomedical field, businesses, breast cancer advocacy groups and other research advocates to identify promising initiatives and ideas aimed at curbing the rise of breast cancer rates which are not currently being prioritized. It is our sincere wish that this legislation comes to the House Floor as soon as practically possible so we can advance this critical piece of legislation.

Breast cancer is a serious issue in our country and we must act swiftly if we are to eradicate this disease. Across the country, every 15 minutes, one woman dies from breast cancer and 6 more are diagnosed with this devastating disease. Since the bill was introduced last year, over 120,000 women have lost their lives unnecessarily, and an additional 240,000 have been diagnosed. In our home state of New York, over 2,400 individuals die annually and over 16,000 are diagnosed each year. The commission which will be created as a result of passage of this legislation will harness the limited resources available to combat this disease in the most effective manner possible to better address the treatment of this disease. In addition to the underlying benefits of this bill, there is no discretionary or mandatory costs associated with the implementation of this bill.

If passed, this bill could have untold benefits for individuals suffering from breast cancer, and other similarly situated ailments. As history has shown time and time again, research breakthroughs in one particular field of concentration could have several other applications as well, potentially resulting in a host of new treatment options for several different diseases.

We urge you to give full and fair consideration to this worthy piece of legislation. While we have made great strides in research and treatment, it is clear that more work is still required.

Sincerely,



Lee M. Zeldin
Member of Congress



Peter King
Member of Congress



Steve Israel
Member of Congress



Kathleen M. Rice
Member of Congress



Grace Meng
Member of Congress



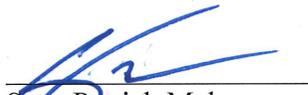
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Sean Patrick Maloney
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