

women of all ethnic groups and most age groups.

I was particularly heartened that this downward trend for cancer was noted among several specific kinds of cancer: lung, prostate, colon or rectal and, yes, breast cancer.

This is, of course, as we might imagine, Mr. Speaker, the most frightening form of cancer for women. Perhaps it is not the most devastating, but it just as well may be, because it attacks the mind and the spirit with special viciousness, even as it is attacking the body.

Among women, breast cancer has declined for whites, and it has declined for Asians and for Hispanics. But during those years, 1990 to 1995, it rose for blacks. This rise for one group and the continuing numbers of women who get breast cancer of course takes away from the very hopeful statistics that are beginning to be reported. Breast cancer is the second leading cause of cancer deaths to American women, second only to lung cancer. It is the leading cause of cancer death among women ages 40 to 55.

Mr. Speaker, those are the ages when women are finally done with child-rearing, can come forward and blossom fully; and to have cancer occur at those prime years is simply intolerable. Even with the more hopeful statistics, even with the access to mammograms we now see across all groups in the society, 44,000 women died from breast cancer in 1997 and 180,000 new cases of the disease were diagnosed. We can do much better than that. We can do better than that not so much by curing cancer with some magic potion but by preventing cancer and by detecting cancer early with mammograms.

I greet this activity on the part of the Race for the Cure. I think it is most appropriate for the Congress to show its special concern beyond our funding, beyond the leadership of the Women's Caucus, by opening up this place, these grounds, for this special tribute. The Race for the Cure is a joyful event. There will be many breast cancer survivors participating, but it must remind us that the Race for the Cure is still a race to be won.

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN), Chairman of the Committee on International Relations.

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me the time.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in strong support of this measure. The National Race for the Cure has had a major impact upon our Nation. Last year, as I recall, there was a postage stamp dedicated to the Race for the Cure, just to emphasize how important this national program is. It raises millions and millions of dollars each year, and there is no better place to show leadership for the national Race for the Cure than here in our Nation's capital.

I know many of our congressional spouses, including my own, are very actively involved in the National Race for the Cure, because they feel very strongly about the impact upon women. It is for that reason I am pleased to rise in support of this measure, and I hope our colleagues give it full support.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, from time to time I have raised questions about various events proposed for the Capitol grounds, some of which I have thought were inappropriate or limited to a very narrow interest group. This event, the National Race for the Cure, to be held on April 1, is a broadly-inclusive event, one in which a wide range of people participate. It does not serve a special interest, it serves all interests. It is certainly in the category, in my classification, of those kinds of events that are appropriate for the grounds of our Nation's Capitol.

Mr. Speaker, the event that we will authorize by this resolution will, again, contribute to continued public understanding and awareness of breast cancer, I should mention, not only for women but also for men. While some 178,000 cases are expected by the National Cancer Institute to be diagnosed in women this year, also some 1,600 of breast cancer in men will be diagnosed this year. That is about an average number. It is much less a threat to men's health than breast cancer is to women's health, but it should be noted for the RECORD that men are not immune, either, from this dread disease.

While there has been an improvement in the detection rate, about a 4 percent decline in detection of breast cancers or incidents, I should say, of breast cancer, that is minuscule. It is a movement in the right direction, but it is minuscule. It shows how large the task is ahead of us.

Let us engage in this event, participate, give it our moral support, give it our physical support, not only here in the Nation's capital but throughout the country in our respective States, so that the greater awareness, the increased research that is undertaken year after year and focused on this disease will mean for future generations of young women that they will not have to wonder and worry about a fate that befell their mothers and grandmothers; that hopefully the day will come when there really is a cure and the race will be over.

Ms. MORELLA. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise in strong support of this bipartisan resolution authorizing the use of the Capitol Grounds for a Breast Cancer Survivors Event Sponsored by the National Race for the Cure.

While we have made progress in mounting an aggressive federal attack on breast cancer and the tragedy it causes, we still have far to go. Women continue to face a 1 in 8 chance of developing breast cancer during their lifetimes. It remains the most frequent major cancer in women and the second leading cause of cancer deaths among women. Last year, an

estimated 182,000 women were diagnosed with breast cancer and 46,000 died of the disease.

We must increase our investment in breast cancer research. We know very little about how to prevent the disease and treatment options are few. At least two-thirds of breast cancers occur in women with no known risk factors.

Just last weekend, I was honored to present a leadership award to Nancy Brinker, who established the Susan Komen Breast Cancer Foundation and who created the Race for the Cure. This event has become the nation's largest 5K series held in a record 86 cities throughout the United States in 1998.

It is most appropriate that this House approve the use of our nation's Capitol for this important event, and take this opportunity to redouble our efforts to eradicate breast cancer.

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STEARNS). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. KIM) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 238, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the concurrent resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KIM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on House Concurrent Resolution 238.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 2870, TROPICAL FOREST CONSERVATION ACT OF 1998

Mr. SOLOMON (during consideration of H. Con. Res. 238), from the Committee on Rules, submitted a privileged report (Rept. No. 105-449) on the resolution (H. Res. 388) providing for the consideration of the bill (H. R. 2870) to amend the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 to facilitate protection of tropical forests through debt reduction with developing countries with tropical forests, which was referred to the House Calendar and ordered to be printed.

URGING RESOLUTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION IN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res.