



PANCREATIC CANCER ACTION NETWORK®
ADVANCE RESEARCH. SUPPORT PATIENTS. CREATE HOPE.

September 18, 2012

Dear Representative:

We write to applaud the Energy and Commerce Committee for moving H.R. 733, the Recalcitrant Cancer Research Act (formerly known as the Pancreatic Cancer Research and Education Act) and to ask for your support when this important measure comes to the House floor for a vote tomorrow.

We are encouraged by the fact that the bill will result in greater focus and accountability for pancreatic cancer and other recalcitrant cancer research supported by the National Cancer Institute. H.R. 733 as introduced has broad bipartisan support, including a majority of the Energy & Commerce Committee and a super majority of the House. The Act would require the National Cancer Institute to create a long-term plan, or scientific framework, for research on pancreatic cancer and other recalcitrant cancers.

Pancreatic cancer is one of the deadliest of all of the recalcitrant cancers. The 5-year survival rate for pancreatic cancer is only 6 percent. By comparison, the 5-year survival rate for all cancers is 67 percent, including 100 percent for prostate cancer and 90 percent for breast cancer. While overall cancer incidence and death rates are declining, the number of new pancreatic cancer cases is projected to increase by 55 percent between 2010 and 2030, and it is projected to become the second leading cause of cancer death by 2020, possibly as early as 2015.

The numbers are clear. We cannot afford to wait any longer to pass the Recalcitrant Cancer Research Act and focus the efforts necessary to make true progress on pancreatic cancer and other cancers with five-year survival rates of less than 50 percent.

Please vote for this bill when it comes to the floor for a vote tomorrow, Wednesday, September 19.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

Julie Fleshman
President & CEO

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