



March 31, 2009

Representative Debbie Wasserman Schultz  
118 Cannon, H.O.B.  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Wasserman Schultz:

It is with much admiration and recognition that the American Clinical Laboratory Association (ACLA) writes to support the introduction of the “Breast Cancer **E**ducation and **A**wareness **R**equires **L**earning **Y**oung Act of 2009” (EARLY).

ACLA members, who develop and perform many of the tests that allow for early detection and targeted treatment of breast cancer, fully agree that more needs to be done to bring awareness to the young adult population. Your legislation will do much to reduce this deadly disease through a greatly needed aggressive public education campaign about breast cancer – with an emphasis on women at higher risk due to their race, ethnicity or genetic make up.

Laboratory medicine stands at the front line in addressing today’s most urgent health care challenge—providing better, more-effective care, while reining-in rising health care costs. Information from laboratory tests enables early detection and targeted therapy that, together, are changing the course of costly and damaging diseases—cancer, heart disease, HIV, and diabetes, among others.

ACLA pledges to support your leadership to foster wellness and prevention. EARLY efforts to stop a disease before it starts may be the greatest health savings of all.

ACLA looks forward to working with you on this and related activities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Alan Mertz'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'M'.

Alan Mertz  
President