

Texas Representative Roberto R. Alonzo's

Capitol Report



October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month

For women in the U.S. breast cancer death rates are higher than those for almost any other cancer. According to the American Cancer Society, breast cancer is the second most common cancer in American women overall, behind skin cancer. The organization also has found that Latinas are diagnosed with late-stage cancer at higher rates than non-Latinas. One Latina dies of breast cancer every 90 minutes in the U.S.

Unfortunately, far too many Latinas are not aware of the dangers of the disease among their ethnic group because of issues like cultural stigmas, poor education, and language barriers. With such a large social footprint of over one million Latinas in this nation, it is crucial to drive awareness of early detection by encouraging Latino women to regularly perform self-examinations, as well as schedule breast cancer screenings with their physicians.

"National Breast Cancer Awareness Month is a chance to raise awareness about the importance of early detection of breast cancer. Although a lot of women are busy with their careers and family, it is extremely important to take the time for yourself to get screened," urged Rep. Alonzo.

Health experts want women to know that a diagnosis is not a death sentence and that woman can and have survived breast cancer especially when it is detected and treated early on. 40 percent of women diagnosed with breast cancer have no known risk factors, which is why screening is so important. Screening tests can find cancer early when chances for survival and recovery are highest. It is recommended that women know their risk, get screened, know what is normal for them, and make healthy lifestyle choices.

Women can access breast exams and preventive services at Planned Parenthood, which is dedicated to providing high quality, comprehensive care. For more information, visit the website at: www.ppgreatertx.org



Nov. 2015 Ballot: Proposition 4

Proposition 4, one of the seven proposed amendments to be submitted at the general election on Tuesday November 3, 2015, would authorize the Legislature to enact laws to permit professional sports team charitable foundations to conduct charitable raffles. This could allow charitable raffles to be conducted only at games hosted at the home venue of the professional sports team associated with the foundation.

Proposition 4 would provide Texas' professional sports teams with another valuable tool to raise funds to support their charitable causes. Current law allows raffles for charitable purposes, however restrictions in the Constitution prevent charitable foundations of sports teams from making full use of a popular type of raffle, called a 50/50 raffle, to raise money for their youth sports, education and community programs.

"Given the hugely supportive crowds at professional sporting events, 50/50 raffles open the doors to create stronger links between fans and the community programs supported by the team's foundation," stated Rep. Roberto Alonzo.



Rep. Roberto Alonzo with team members of Non-profit organization called "Immigrant Project".

Rep. Alonzo and fellow attendees of the 90th Anniversary Celebration of Sunset High School.

