



Senator Lee M. Zeldin
4155 Veterans Highway, Suite 5
Ronkonkoma, NY 11779



PRSRT STD
U.S. Postage
PAID
New York Senate



From Senator Lee Zeldin: October is National Breast Cancer Awareness Month

SENATOR LEE ZELDIN WANTS YOU TO KNOW
**THAT BREAST CANCER
AWARENESS**
IS THE FIRST STEP IN THE FIGHT.



State Senator Lee M. Zeldin (R, C, I-Shirley) participated in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk at Dowling College's Brookhaven Campus in Shirley. Senator Zeldin (above center) is pictured here with his team of 25 walkers from the local community who were able to raise over \$3,000 for this worthy cause.

Making Strides In The Fight Against Breast Cancer

Senator Zeldin Helps Pass New Law to Provide Insurance Coverage for Breast Reconstruction After Partial Mastectomies

Those who are diagnosed with breast cancer should focus on getting well and recovering. They should not have to worry about insurance issues, and whether or not reconstruction costs will be covered if they undergo a partial mastectomy.

That's why **Senator Zeldin** supported legislation which requires insurance companies to cover reconstruction for partial mastectomies -- the most common form of breast cancer surgery.

The new law builds upon earlier legislation requiring insurance providers to include coverage for complete breast reconstructive surgery following a mastectomy.

Improving Breast Cancer Screenings

Additionally, **Senator Zeldin** sponsored legislation that increases awareness of the presence of dense breast tissue found during a mammography exam.

Dense breast tissue often makes it more difficult for doctors to detect tumors. Breast cancer is four to six times more likely in women with dense breast tissue. Unfortunately, a Harris-Interactive survey indicated that a large majority of women do not know their breast density, even though it's one of the largest risk factors for breast cancer.

The new law requires mammography providers to provide detailed notification in the summary of the mammography report provided to patients who have dense tissue.

Along with routine breast cancer screenings, the information provided by physicians to those with dense breast tissue can help increase early detection of the disease and give patients a greater ability to make educated decisions about their health.



Women of
DISTINCTION
HONORING WOMEN IN NEW YORK

Ginny Salerno

Ginny Salerno's life changed when she returned from a national breast cancer walk in 2002. Inspired by her experience, she decided to bring a multi-day walk to Long Island where 100 percent of the funds raised would stay on Long Island to be distributed by grassroots breast cancer service and support organizations. With sheer determination, family, friends and the support from local politicians and businesses, the inaugural LI2Day Breast Cancer Walk took place in Suffolk County in June 2004 and raised \$308,000.


Now into its ninth year, over \$4 million has been raised for programs and services that directly assist the people who need it most. Local grassroots organizations from South Nassau and Manhasset to Montauk Point are not the only ones benefiting from her efforts. Since the inception of the LI2Day Scholarship Fund in 2004, \$120,000 has been awarded to graduating seniors residing in Nassau and Suffolk counties who have a parent or guardian who has battled breast cancer.

Ms. Salerno remains the driving force and the visionary for LI2Day. Under her guidance, the organization has become much more than a single event walk. LI2Day is visible throughout the year raising awareness via fundraising initiatives and educational platforms, including breast health events.


Ginny Salerno was selected as a 2012 Woman of Distinction by Senator Lee M. Zeldin.

To learn more or to find organizations that are helping in the fight against breast cancer on Long Island, please visit **zeldin.nysenate.gov**.

District Office:
4155 Veterans Highway, Suite 5
Ronkonkoma, NY 11779
Phone: (631) 585-0608
Email: zeldin@nysenate.gov

 Senator Lee M. Zeldin

 @leezeldin

 Senator Lee Zeldin