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HON. MARTIN OLAV SABO
OF MINNESOTA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Tuesday, October 28, 2003

Mr. SABO. Mr. Speaker, in keeping with National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, I rise to honor Barbra Wiener, the founder of the Women's Cancer Resource Center (WCRC) in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

Barbra founded WCRC in 1993 with the vision of providing free support and advocacy to women affected by cancer and to promote cancer prevention through environmental awareness and activism. Ms. Wiener was inspired to launch WCRC after the loss of both her mother and sister to breast cancer and her own battle with thyroid cancer.

WCRC serves as an information, support, and advocacy center for women with cancer. Information services include treatment referrals, guest speakers, and a comprehensive health library. In addition, WCRC offers support groups, one-on-one support programs, therapeutic massages, and a mentoring service that matches volunteers to clients with a similar cancer diagnosis. WCRC also holds public health forums on environmental issues related to health and facilitates outreach programs that focus on cancer prevention. All of these services are provided free of charge to women with cancer.

Ms. Wiener has been acknowledged for her work with several awards including the Helen Caldecott Leadership Award, an international award recognizing leadership on behalf of women. Further, the Ford Foundation recognized her and her colleagues at WCRC as finalists for the Leadership for a Changing World Award. In addition, Barbra currently serves on the boards of the Headwaters Foundation for Justice, Women's Environmental Institute, and the Minnesota Interplay Community. She is also a member of Alliance for Accountability in Breast Cancer, a national coalition of cancer activists.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege and honor to represent a woman who has turned personal tragedy into an invaluable service that helps women affected by all types of cancer. It is during National Breast Cancer Awareness Month that I ask that my House colleagues pay tribute to the life work of Barbra Wiener.