



TO: ALL MEDIA  
FROM: FUND A CURE FOR PANCREATIC CANCER, contact Robert L. Ciervo, Ph.D.  
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RE: Funding to Fox Chase Cancer Center Held Up by Politics  
DATE: November 9, 2009

NEWTOWN, PA – Fund A Cure for Pancreatic Cancer Chairman, Dr. Robert Ciervo issued a statement today about the continuing delay of funding from the Pennsylvania legislature to the Fox Chase Cancer Center in Philadelphia, PA.

“November is Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month and I first want to thank again the Pennsylvania State Senate for passing a resolution back in October designating November as awareness month for the deadliest of cancers. Pancreatic cancer claims the lives of Pennsylvania residents afflicted with this disease on average in just six short months and has a cure rate of only 1%”, stated Ciervo.

Ciervo added, “I am extremely upset and disappointed that state funding to the Fox Chase Cancer Center, a teaching hospital that treats many pancreatic cancer patients in the Philadelphia metropolitan area and beyond has been delayed indefinitely by politicians that are using this funding as leverage in their attempts to legalize black jack in Pennsylvania.”

“Holding cancer patients hostage is not something members of the pancreatic cancer community take lightly. As someone who lost two parents to cancer, both of whom had all of their various chemotherapy treatments at this location, I am personally offended by the actions of the Pennsylvania Speaker of the House for delaying the release of monies that were budgeted to Fox Chase weeks ago. Using this funding as some sort of chip in a game is a sad display of hubris and ignorance and one that many cancer patients will never forget.”

“We ask that Governor Rendell demand that this funding be released, and that members of the State House also implore to Speaker McCall that passage of expanded legalized gambling should not be tied to funding to fight cancer. We would welcome a response from his office on this issue,” concluded Ciervo.

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