

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**SUSAN G. KOMEN BREAST CANCER ORGANIZATION PRAISES CONGRESSIONAL ACTION THAT PRESERVES CANCER RESEARCH DOLLARS**

**WASHINGTON — June 7, 2016** — The Susan G. Komen breast cancer organization today praised Senate leaders for swift action to preserve federal funding of biomedical research – including breast cancer research – conducted through the Department of Defense (DOD).

The bipartisan amendment, led by Sen. Richard Durbin (D-Ill) and Sen. Thad Cochran (R-Miss), passed the Senate on a 66-32 vote this afternoon. Its passage blocked an effort that would have prohibited biomedical research funding at the DOD unless the research met narrowly defined criteria related to military relevance. This included funding for the DOD’s Breast Cancer Research Program.

“Passage of this amendment today ensures that critical, innovative cancer research will continue,” said Dr. Judy Salerno, president and CEO of Susan G. Komen, the world’s largest breast cancer organization. “We are extremely grateful to Senators Durbin and Cochran, and to those senators who voted for its passage. Investment in biomedical research must remain an unwavering national priority if we hope to continue the progress we are making to find the cures.”

Since its inception in 1992, the Breast Cancer Research Program at the DOD has awarded more than \$3.2 billion to more than 6,500 research grants aimed at identifying how and why breast cancer develops, factors that increase risk, and more advanced ways to detect and treat the disease.

**About Susan G. Komen®**

Susan G. Komen is world’s largest breast cancer organization, funding more breast cancer research than any other nonprofit while providing real-time help to those facing the disease. Since its founding in 1982, Komen has funded more than \$889 million in research and provided \$1.95 billion in funding to screening, education, treatment and psychosocial support programs serving millions of people in more than 30 countries worldwide. Komen was founded by Nancy G. Brinker, who promised her sister, Susan G. Komen, that she would end the disease that claimed Suzy’s life. Visit [komen.org](http://komen.org) or call 1-877 GO KOMEN. Connect with us on social at [ww5.komen.org/social](http://ww5.komen.org/social).

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