

SB 420

Senator Dingfelder, Senator Knopp, Senator Steiner Hayward
Representative Tomei, Representative Whitsett

SUMMARY

SB 420 requires a health care facility who performs a mammogram showing dense breast tissue to issue a notice to the patient educating them about breast density and the risks associated with dense breast tissue.

Connecticut, Texas, Virginia, New York, California, and Hawaii have all passed Breast Density notification laws and 20 other states have similar legislation pending. Federal efforts are also underway for these life-saving notifications.

WHY IS THIS IMPORTANT?

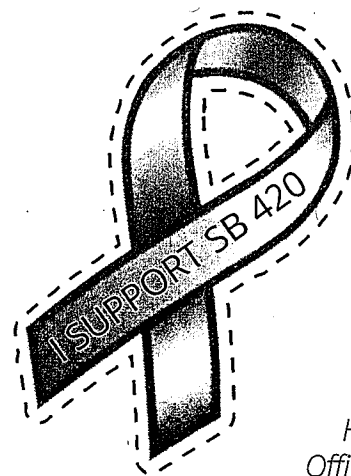
Dense breast tissue increases a woman's risk of breast cancer by nearly five times. Most women don't know what their breast density is, yet 40% have dense breasts. Both dense breast tissue and cancerous tumors show up white on a mammogram making it difficult to detect early stage cancer through mammography alone.

SB 420 requires the facility performing a mammogram to notify women if their mammogram shows dense breast tissue. The FDA already requires radiology facilities to send this notification - **but it is sent only to the physician, not the patient.**

With SB 420, lifesaving notification would be sent to all affected women.

KNOWLEDGE *is survival.*

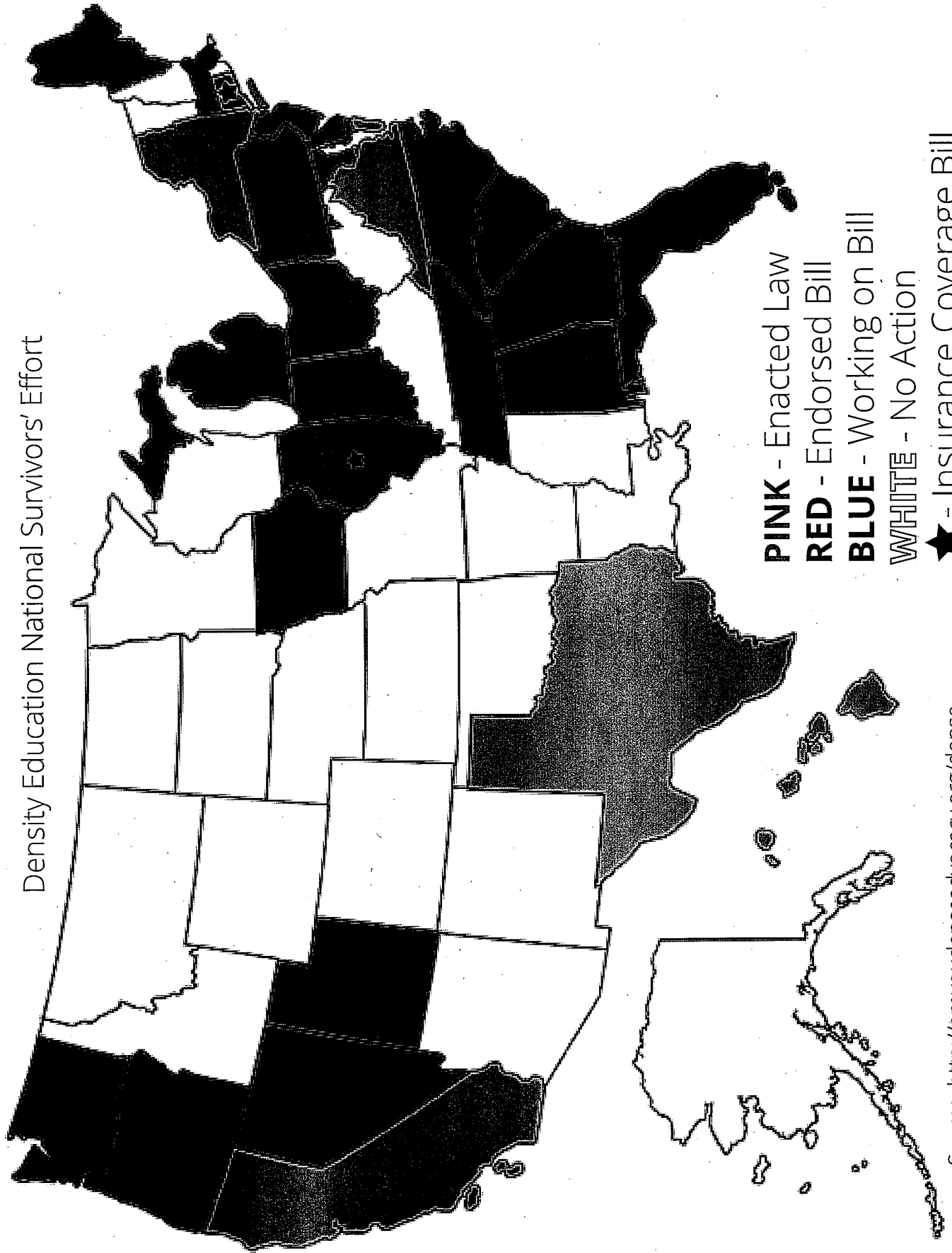
DENSITY
EDUCATION
NATIONAL
SURVIVORS'
EFFORT



Handout creation:
Office of Rep. Whitsett

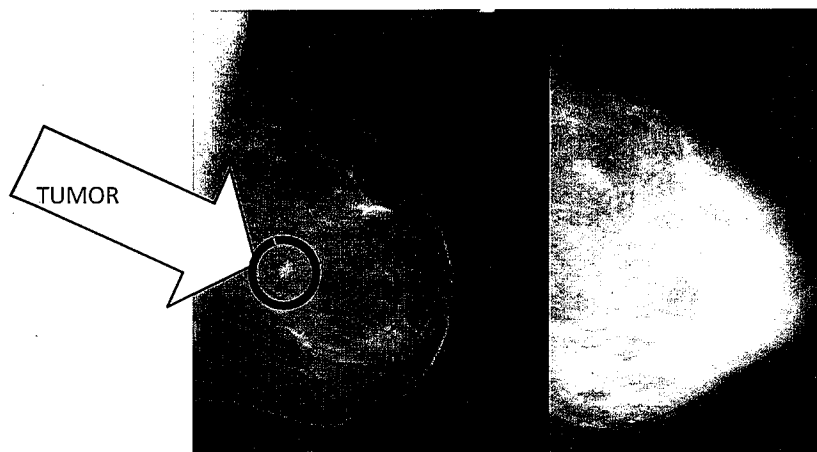
D.E.N.S.E. State Efforts

Density Education National Survivors' Effort



What is Dense Breast Tissue?

Dense breast tissue is comprised of less fat and more glandular tissue. On a mammogram, dense tissue appears white and cancerous tumors appear white making it nearly impossible to "see" the tumor.

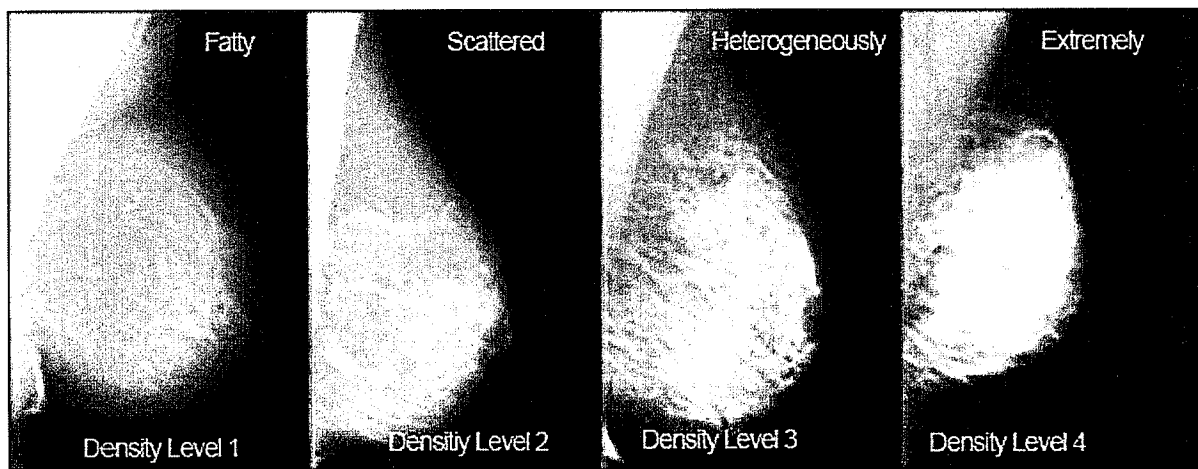


Fatty Breast

Dense Breast

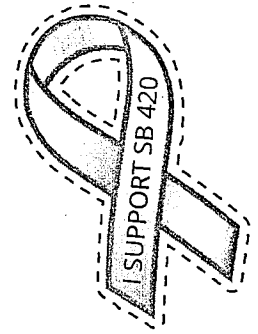
On the left is a mammogram of a fatty breast. Since fat is radiolucent it produces a dark background which makes the small, white tumor in the center of the breast relatively easy to see. The mammogram on the right shows a very dense breast. It too has a cancer in roughly the same location but I challenge you to find it. (Photo from a lecture courtesy of Dr. Ellen Warner, Sunnybrook & Women's College Health Sciences, Toronto, Canada)

Dense Breast Tissue Levels of Density



Are
ou
DENSE?
exposing the best-kept secret

IT JUST MIGHT BE THE GREATEST CANCER RISK YOU'VE NEVER HEARD OF

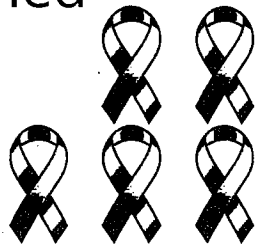


40% of women have dense breast tissue...

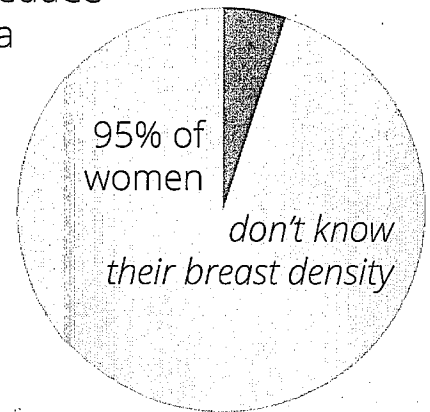
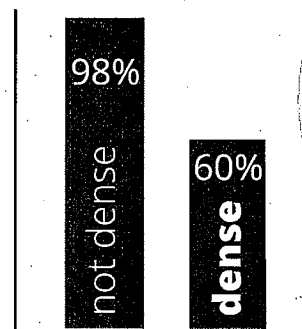


DENSE BREAST TISSUE *affects women of all age groups*

is an established
PREDICTOR
of breast
cancer risk



Dense breasts reduce
the accuracy of a
mammogram



5X Cancer occurs five times more often in women who have extremely dense breast tissue

Mammograms typically miss 40% or more of tumors in women with dense breast tissue

**DENSITY
EDUCATION
NATIONAL
SURVIVORS'
EFFORT**

"Standardizing the communication of dense breast tissue will prevent later stage cancers and give ALL women access to an EARLY diagnosis - when most treatable and with better survival outcomes."

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Nancy M. Cappello, Ph.D.
President and Founder, Are You Dense Advocacy Inc.