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Critical Breast Cancer-Fighting Program Receives More Funding

MADISON, Wis. – May 5, 2015 – Today, the Joint Committee on Finance increased funding to the Wisconsin Well Woman Program by \$100,000. In response, Sara Sahli, Wisconsin government relations director for the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN), released the following statement:

"As an organization dedicated to making the fight against cancer a state and national priority, we are pleased that the Joint Committee on Finance voted unanimously to increase funding for the Wisconsin Well Woman Program.

"Well Woman helps thousands of women get their doctor-recommended mammograms every year, connecting uninsured and underinsured Wisconsin women with potentially life-saving screenings. From 2009 to 2013, this statewide program detected 872 incidences of breast and cervical cancer and precancerous lesions.

"This is great news for women across the state, and Wisconsin must continue to invest in Well Woman. By doing so, the Legislature will keep in place a critical safety net for thousands of women who will not qualify for Medicaid this year.

"We understand Wisconsin continues to face tough financial choices, but thanks to our lawmakers, cancer will remain a top policy priority this year. ACS CAN would especially like to thank Senator Alberta Darling and Representative John Nygren, co-chairs of the Joint Committee on Finance, for their leadership, as well as Representative Mary Czaja, who offered the motion along with Senator Darling to increase funding for Well Woman.

"We encourage the full Legislature to approve this budget motion on behalf of the 4,500 Wisconsin women expected to be diagnosed with breast or cervical cancer this year."

About ACS CAN

ACS CAN, the nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy affiliate of the American Cancer Society, supports evidencebased policy and legislative solutions designed to eliminate cancer as a major health problem. ACS CAN works to encourage elected officials and candidates to make cancer a top national priority. ACS CAN gives ordinary people extraordinary power to fight cancer with the training and tools they need to make their voices heard. For more information, visit <u>www.acscan.org</u>.

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