

I urge the Ohio Senate to pass Hank's Law, naming July as Sarcoma Awareness Month.

Sarcoma is a cancer of connective and supportive tissue, such as bone and muscle. It is 1% of cancer cases in adults, but up to 20% of cancer cases in children and adolescents. It represents about 15% of the cancers in canines.

Clinical trials for new drugs and surgical techniques for our canine companions can be applied to humans.

I'm a 19-year survivor of sarcoma who served on the board of the Sarcoma Alliance, the first national nonprofit for the disease. Sarcoma nonprofits in the U.S. agreed on July as Sarcoma Awareness Month in 2007.

The month is now recognized by the Sarcoma Alliance for Research through Collaboration, National Cancer Institute, American Association for Cancer Research, American Society of Clinical Oncology and American Cancer Society.

Naming July as Sarcoma Awareness Month in Ohio will bring attention to this rare and aggressive cancer. I appreciate your consideration.

Suzie Siegel