



Rep. Tom Emmer on Emmer Recognizes Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

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****HOST:**

** Mr. Speaker, September is Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. This is the time to bring awareness to this heartless disease and the demands and challenges of the families affected. Childhood cancer is an especially important topic in our office. My Deputy Chief of Staff, Robert Boland's daughter, Abigail, was diagnosed with retinoblastoma, a rare cancer that affects the eyes when she was only two months old. Thankfully, Abigail survived her cancer and is a happy, growing little girl. Abigail and her parents are fortunate that they, like all families dealing with childhood cancer, had many a sleepless night. No parent should ever have to watch a child fight a life-threatening disease, but unfortunately that is not the case for many. Every year in the United States, there will be more than 15,000 children diagnosed with cancer. Statistics show that 80% of childhood cancer cases are diagnosed only after the disease has already metastasized and spread. This makes research absolutely necessary. That's why we must spread the word and raise awareness. All children deserve a future, and it is vital that we do everything in our power to help give them that chance. I yield back. *Note: This appears to be a congressional floor speech rather than a typical TV/radio interview transcript, as evidenced by the formal address to "Mr. Speaker" and the closing phrase "I yield back."*

This transcript was independently produced by MN-06 Watch for accountability and archival purposes.

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For questions or corrections: mn06watch@gmail.com