



Senator Tim Schaffer
31st Ohio Senate District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**SCHAFFER RECOGNIZES ADVOCATES FOR CHILDHOOD CANCER
AWARENESS**

Nearly 12,400 children diagnosed with cancer each year



(Left to Right – State Senator Tim Schaffer, Moireen Ruotsala , Aaron Ruotsala)

COLUMBUS – State Senator Tim Schaffer (R – Lancaster) recently recognized September as National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month. On hand to celebrate this occasion were Aaron and Moireen Ruotsala founders of *C.O.L.E.’s Foundation*.

In July 2008, the Ruotsalas three year-old son, Cole, was diagnosed with a rare form of childhood cancer called Adreno-Cortical Carcinoma. Cole passed away less than two months later. As a way to honor the memory of their young son, Aaron and Moireen founded *C.O.L.E.’s Foundation* to provide support advocacy for families affected by childhood cancer.

The American Childhood Cancer Organization estimates that 12,400 children are diagnosed with cancer each year. Additionally, approximately one of every 300 boys and one of every 333 girls develop cancer before reaching the age of twenty. In order to call added attention to the young

people fighting this disease, two months ago President Barack Obama proclaimed September 2011 as National Childhood Cancer Awareness.

“Nothing is more precious than the lives of our young people,” Schaffer said. “As a state and as a nation, we must do our best to ensure their health and well-being.

For more information on *C.O.L.E.’s Foundation*, you can visit their homepage at www.colesfoundation.org.

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State Senator Tim Schaffer was elected to the Ohio Senate in 2006 after serving in the Ohio House of Representatives for six years. His legislative accomplishments include enacting anti-corruption reforms, income tax indexing, and stronger penalties on sexual predators. He and his wife reside in Lancaster.