

House Resolution 1686

By: Representatives Thomas of the 39th, Cooper of the 43rd, Paris of the 142nd, McLeod of the 105th, Kendrick of the 93rd, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of July 2020 as Fibroid Awareness Month at the state capitol; and
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the General Assembly has an interest in protecting and promoting the health and
4 wellness of the state's citizens and recognizes the importance of shining a spotlight on certain
5 health issues that affect women in particular; and

6 WHEREAS, uterine fibroid tumors, clinically known as uterine leiomyoma, are the most
7 common benign tumors in the uterus and the single most common indication for
8 hysterectomy; and

9 WHEREAS, three out of four women will have uterine fibroids during their lives and the
10 overall incidence in African American women is estimated to be three to five times higher
11 than the general population; and

12 WHEREAS, these benign tumors are a significant cause of pelvic pain, abnormal uterine
13 bleeding, and reproductive dysfunction; and

14 WHEREAS, African American women are more likely to undergo hysterectomy for uterine
15 fibroids, and they are also less likely to receive minimally invasive hysterectomy compared
16 to white women; and

17 WHEREAS, African American women who undergo hysterectomies are 40 percent more
18 likely to develop complications, nearly three times as likely to have long hospital stays, and
19 three times more likely to die, even though African American women were younger on
20 average; and

21 WHEREAS, to increase awareness of the prevalence and effect that uterine fibroids have on
22 women's health, this body finds it of such importance that it is fitting to organize an advisory

23 committee to research and make specific recommendations to the state's Department of
24 Public Health, related to patient access related to minimally invasive surgical treatment
25 options specific to uterine fibroids.

26 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
27 the members of this body recognize the month of July 2020 as Fibroid Awareness Month at
28 the state capitol.

29 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized
30 and directed to make appropriate copies of this resolution available for distribution to the
31 public and the press.