

House Resolution 607

By: Representatives Cooper of the 43rd, Smith of the 70th, Jones of the 53rd, Mathiak of the 73rd, and Hagan of the 156th

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing January 2022 as Cervical Health Awareness Month, acknowledging that
2 cervical cancer is preventable through regular screening, and encouraging all women to
3 schedule well-woman exams and Pap+HPV (co-testing) cervical cancer screening; and for
4 other purposes.

5 WHEREAS, since the introduction of the life-saving Pap test in the 1940s, cervical cancer
6 rates have steadily declined in the United States; and

7 WHEREAS, however, cervical cancer continues to affect women at an alarming rate. Every
8 hour, a woman is diagnosed with cervical cancer, and every two hours a woman will die of
9 this disease; and

10 WHEREAS, in 2021, there were an estimated 14,480 new cases and 4,290 deaths from
11 cervical cancer; and

12 WHEREAS, cervical cancer is not only treatable but can be preventable through regular
13 screening; and

14 WHEREAS, Pap+HPV (co-testing) is the most widely adopted and preferred method for
15 cervical cancer screening in the United States, and recent publications representative of
16 clinical practice in the United States have shown that co-testing misses the fewest
17 cancer/precursors to cancer and also indicate that 95 percent of cervical cancers have been
18 detected by co-testing; and

19 WHEREAS, racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic inequalities still exist, exacerbating the impact
20 of cervical cancer on Black and Hispanic women; and

21 WHEREAS, Black women in the United States are twice as likely to die of cervical cancer
22 than are white women and are more likely to be diagnosed with advanced cervical cancer
23 than any other racial group, and Hispanic women are 30 percent more likely to die of cervical
24 cancer than are white women; and

25 WHEREAS, COVID-19 has widened health disparities. In a recent report, 46 percent of
26 women indicated they put off preventative care and 32 percent skipped recommended
27 medical tests and screenings.

28 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that
29 the members of this body recognize January 2022 as Cervical Health Awareness Month,
30 acknowledge that cervical cancer is preventable through regular screening, and encourage
31 all women to schedule well-woman exams and Pap+HPV (co-testing) cervical cancer
32 screening.

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