## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

## SENATE RESOLUTION

No. 400

Session of 2015

INTRODUCED BY DINNIMAN, SABATINA, VULAKOVICH, BREWSTER, HUGHES, BROWNE, FONTANA, KILLION, SCHWANK, RAFFERTY, GREENLEAF AND COSTA, JUNE 23, 2016

INTRODUCED AND ADOPTED, JUNE 23, 2016

## A RESOLUTION

- Recognizing the month of July 2016 as "Uterine Fibroid Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.
- 3 WHEREAS, The Senate seeks to foster the health and well-being
- 4 of residents of this Commonwealth by engaging in a conscientious
- 5 commitment to advancing women's health; and
- 6 WHEREAS, Uterine fibroids, clinically known as uterine
- 7 leiomyoma, are the most common benign tumors of the uterus; and
- 8 WHEREAS, Uterine fibroids affect up to 80% of women under 50
- 9 years of age; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Nationwide, 10 to 21 million women suffer from
- 11 uterine fibroids; and
- 12 WHEREAS, Uterine fibroids are three to five times more common
- 13 among African-American women than among women from other ethnic
- 14 groups; and
- 15 WHEREAS, Symptoms of uterine fibroids often include
- 16 abdominal, lower back and pelvic pain, heavy bleeding, pain
- 17 during intercourse, enlargement of the lower abdomen, frequent

- 1 urination, anemia, prolonged menstrual cycles, complications
- 2 during pregnancy, infertility and miscarriage; and
- 3 WHEREAS, Uterine fibroids are the leading cause of
- 4 hysterectomy in the United States and therefore the leading
- 5 cause of lost reproductive potential; and
- 6 WHEREAS, According to the National Uterine Fibroid
- 7 Foundation, 600,000 hysterectomies are performed annually in the
- 8 United States, with approximately 177,000 to 366,000 of these
- 9 procedures arising from uterine fibroids; and
- 10 WHEREAS, Approximately 660 women die each year due to
- 11 complications from hysterectomies; and
- 12 WHEREAS, The establishment of health seminars, funding
- 13 opportunities, medical information panels and programs for all
- 14 community populations would serve to empower and inform all
- 15 groups about this health crisis and would potentially yield
- 16 faster diagnoses, more research, better treatment options and an
- 17 eventual cure for uterine fibroids; and
- 18 WHEREAS, The Senate urges increased awareness and education
- 19 relating to uterine fibroids as well as increased funding for
- 20 research and treatment of the condition; therefore be it
- 21 RESOLVED, That the Senate recognize the month of July 2016 as
- 22 "Uterine Fibroid Awareness Month" in Pennsylvania.