

House Resolution 518

By: Representatives Thomas of the 39th, Abrams of the 89th, Cooper of the 43rd, Hugley of the 136th, Jones of the 62nd, and others

A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the month of July, 2015, as Fibroid Awareness Month at the state capitol; and
2 for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the State of Georgia seeks to foster the health and well-being of its citizens and
4 engage in a conscientious commitment to advancing women's health; and

5 WHEREAS, uterine fibroids, clinically known as uterine leiomyoma, are the most common
6 benign tumors in the uterus; and

7 WHEREAS, three out of four women will have uterine fibroids during their lives, and one
8 in four women will experience symptoms severe enough to require medical intervention; and

9 WHEREAS, fibroids affect up to 80 percent of women by age 50; and

10 WHEREAS, ten to 21 million women suffer from fibroids in the United States; and

11 WHEREAS, African American women experience fibroids three to five times more often
12 than the general population, a higher rate than any other ethnic group; and

13 WHEREAS, symptoms of uterine fibroids often include: heavy bleeding; abdominal, lower
14 back, and pelvic pain and pain during intercourse; enlargement of the lower abdomen;
15 frequent urination; anemia; prolonged menstrual cycle; complications during pregnancy;
16 infertility; and miscarriage; and

17 WHEREAS, in the United States, uterine fibroids are the leading cause of hysterectomy and
18 therefore, the loss of reproductive potential; nearly half of all hysterectomies are performed
19 to address uterine fibroids; and

20 WHEREAS, according to National Uterine Fibroid Foundation, Georgia ranks the
21 ninth-highest state to perform hysterectomies; and

22 WHEREAS, the establishment of health seminars, funding opportunities, medical
23 information panels, and programs for all community populations would serve to empower
24 and inform all groups about this health crisis to encourage faster diagnosis, more research,
25 better treatment options, and eventually a cure for 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, 2015, as Fibroid Awareness Month
28 at the state capitol to bring awareness and national exposure to the uterine fibroid condition.

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.