

## House Resolution 480

By: Representatives Cannon of the 58<sup>th</sup>, Anulewicz of the 42<sup>nd</sup>, Bruce of the 61<sup>st</sup>, Burnough of the 77<sup>th</sup>, Shannon of the 84<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Urging the Georgia Department of Public Health (DPH) to create reporting for fibroids; 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 with 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 undergoing this  
20 procedure are younger on average; and

21 WHEREAS, to increase awareness of the prevalence and effect that uterine fibroids have on  
22 women's health, the General Assembly finds it of such importance that it is fitting to require

23 public reporting specific to the frequency of surgical procedures, specifically for the  
24 indication of uterine fibroids; and

25 WHEREAS, public reporting shall include the number of surgical procedures by physician  
26 and hospital, as well as information such as surgery type, surgery route, patient's age, and  
27 race; and insurance carriers must report all available options covered under plans offered in  
28 the state, as well as rates of fibroid surgeries.

29 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
30 the members of this body urge the Georgia Department of Public Health to create reporting  
31 for fibroids.

32 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
33 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the  
34 Georgia Department of Public Health.