

ASSEMBLY JOINT RESOLUTION

No. 34

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

219th LEGISLATURE

PRE-FILED FOR INTRODUCTION IN THE 2020 SESSION

Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman YVONNE LOPEZ

District 19 (Middlesex)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblywoman JOANN DOWNEY

District 11 (Monmouth)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblywoman Murphy

SYNOPSIS

Designates March of each year as “Endometriosis Awareness Month.”

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

Introduced Pending Technical Review by Legislative Counsel.



- 1 **A JOINT RESOLUTION** designating March of each year as
2 “Endometriosis Awareness Month.”
3
- 4 **WHEREAS**, Endometriosis is a disease with no known cure or cause in
5 which the endometrium, a type of tissue that normally grows in the
6 uterus, also grows outside the uterus; and
7 **WHEREAS**, Endometriosis occurs in at least one in 10 women of
8 reproductive age and as many as 176 million women worldwide;
9 and
10 **WHEREAS**, Currently, endometriosis can only be diagnosed with
11 certainty via a laparoscopic surgical procedure, and health care
12 providers must focus on managing the symptoms of endometriosis
13 with treatments that may include in-vitro fertilization, low-dose oral
14 contraceptives, intrauterine devices, nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory
15 drugs, and gonadotropin-releasing hormone agonist therapy; and
16 **WHEREAS**, Many women with endometriosis live with debilitating,
17 chronic pain, and between 30 and 50 percent of women with
18 endometriosis experience infertility; and
19 **WHEREAS**, Women experience an average delay of up to 10 years
20 between the first symptoms of pain and the final endometriosis
21 diagnosis; and
22 **WHEREAS**, Endometriosis can affect every organ of the body,
23 including the bowel, bladder, ureters, lungs, diaphragm, skin, eyes,
24 and brain; and
25 **WHEREAS**, The first Worldwide Endometriosis March took place in
26 2014, with events held in more than 40 countries; and
27 **WHEREAS**, On March 24, 2018, 63 countries around the world
28 participated in the Worldwide Endometriosis March, which has
29 been sponsored by the American Medical Association, American
30 College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, American Society for
31 Reproductive Medicine, Society of Laparoendoscopic Surgeons,
32 International Federation of Gynecology and Obstetrics, and the
33 European Society of Human Reproduction and Embryology; and
34 **WHEREAS**, There is a need for further research and increased research
35 funding for endometriosis, as research and funding could lead to
36 earlier detection, the discovery of the cause of the disease, a
37 reliable, less invasive, and less costly way to diagnose the disease,
38 more effective ways to manage symptoms, and a cure; and
39 **WHEREAS**, It is fitting and proper that the Legislature designate the
40 month of March as “Endometriosis Awareness Month” in New
41 Jersey to increase endometriosis awareness and highlight the
42 importance of diagnosing this disease; now, therefore,
43
- 44 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the Senate and General Assembly of the
45 State of New Jersey:
46
- 47 1. March of each year is designated as “Endometriosis
48 Awareness Month” in the State of New Jersey to help increase

1 endometriosis awareness and highlight the importance of
2 diagnosing this disease.

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4 2. The Governor is requested to annually issue a proclamation
5 calling upon public officials and the citizens of New Jersey to
6 observe the month with appropriate activities and programs.

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8 3. This joint resolution shall take effect immediately.

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STATEMENT

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13 This joint resolution designates March of each year as
14 “Endometriosis Awareness Month” in New Jersey to increase
15 endometriosis awareness and highlight the importance of
16 diagnosing this disease.

17 The joint resolution asks the Governor to annually issue a
18 proclamation recognizing March as “Endometriosis Awareness
19 Month” in New Jersey, and calling upon public officials and the
20 citizens of New Jersey to observe the month with appropriate
21 activities and programs.