

PUBLIC COMMENTS

HB 1967

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH

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Hearing Date: April 21, 2021 8:00 AM

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Andrea Elizondo

Self

Austin, TX

Dear Chairwoman Klick, Vice Chairman Guerra, and Committee Members,

My name is Andrea Elizondo and I am providing public comments in support of HB 1967. I live in TX House District 50, which is in Travis County. I am representing myself. Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comments.

Fibroids is a menstrual disorder that is overlooked and ignored just like most menstrual disorders. This is one of the most menstrual disorders because about 1 in 3 women will be diagnosed with fibroids (The Fibroids Foundation). Menstrual disorders, like fibroids, have a history of being dismissed because menstruation is stigmatized, and heavy bleeding and serious painful cramping are not taken seriously.

Just like almost everything health related, there are health disparities in menstrual disorders including fibroids. According to the Fibroids Foundation, 80% of African American women are diagnosed with fibroids. Texans from vulnerable communities need access to crucial health information. It would be beneficial for the state To learn more about this health condition and the disparities of this condition by collecting demographic data.

Due to lack of general awareness about fibroids, creating a database to collect prevalence data and treatment data will put Texas on the road to success in getting more access to treatment for uterine fibroids to people who need it the most. The awareness campaign on fibroids can help people get appropriate treatment while also destigmatizing menstruation especially for vulnerable communities.

Please help fibroids get more awareness by passing HB 1967 out of committee. I strongly urge you to support this bill and vote it out of committee soon.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment.

Tiy Jones

Myself

Houston, TX

Dear Chairwoman Klick, Vice Chairman Guerra, and Committee Members,

My name is Tiy Jones and I am providing public comments in support of HB 1967. I live in TX House District 2, which is in Houston TX/Harris. I am representing myself. Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comments.

I am one of the 80% of African American Women who suffered from fibroids. My periods were debilitating to the point of missing out on social activities to not wearing white anymore to painful sexual intercourse. My menstrual every month was unpredictable and was so heavy to the point that I was changing my extra heavy pad every hour. My cramps felt like labor pains.

Yes, Fibroids can cause this agony. I share this same experience with thousands of the other women and girls. I found out about the fibroids in my uterus in 2013; I was diagnosed with 3 fibroids ranging from golf ball size to strawberries. Come to find out

Printed on: May 4, 2021 4:19 PM

my mom, grandmother and aunt had fibroids but they all had surgery because they were not giving a Natural Alternative Option. It's nothing we can do. My heart was broken; no one can help me from this pain. I knew there was another way to heal myself, I was not going to be a static, by having surgery. My healing was not overnight; it took time to be consistent with a holistic new healthy diet and living. Out of my experience I created My Womb Wellness to provide a natural alternative solution for women and girls who feel like me, to know that there is another option alternative approach. Due to lack of general awareness about fibroids, creating a database to collect prevalence data and treatment data will bring the road to success in getting more access to treatment and natural alternative option for uterine fibroid. The campaign awareness on fibroids can help people get appropriate treatment while also destigmatizing menstruation especially for vulnerable communities.

Please help fibroids get more awareness by passing HB 1967 out of committee. I strongly urge you to support this bill and vote it out of committee soon.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment.

Tiy Jones

TWYMEIKA HILL-JONES

HONEY COMB SUITE, LLC dba Empower You, PERIOD

DALLAS, TX

Dear Chairwoman Klick, Vice Chairman Guerra, and Committee Members,

My name is Twymeika Hill-Jones and I am providing public comments in support of HB 1967. I live in TX House District 109 which is in Dallas. I am representing myself. Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comments. Uterine fibroids is a health condition that is overlooked and ignored. Even though this specific health condition is ignored, about 1 in 3 women will be diagnosed with fibroids (The Fibroids Foundation). I was one of the women affected by them in my early 20s. Due to having medicaid at the time, I was given misinformation about the threat they could cause to my body, especially, if I decided to have children. Although, I had 3 the size of golf balls, I was told I could use birth control to dissolve them, which I was already taking when they came into existence. I was also told no need to surgically remove them because they were harmless, but i wasn't told they could cause complications during pregnancy, heavy bleeding, horrific cramps, blood loss and exhaustion.

Menstrual disorders, like fibroids, have a history of being dismissed because menstruation is stigmatized, and heavy bleeding and serious painful cramping are not taken seriously.

There are health disparities in menstrual disorders including fibroids. According to the Fibroids Foundation, 80% of African American women are diagnosed with fibroids. To learn more about this health disparity, it is crucial to collect demographic data.

Due to lack of general awareness about fibroids, creating a database to collect prevalence data and treatment data will bring the road to success in getting more access to treatment for uterine fibroids. The campaign awareness on fibroids can help people get appropriate treatment while also destigmatizing menstruation especially for vulnerable communities.

Please help fibroids get more awareness by passing HB 1967 out of committee. I strongly urge you to support this bill and vote it out of committee soon.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide public comment.