



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 514

February Session, 2026

Substitute House Bill No. 5322

House of Representatives, April 8, 2026

The Committee on Public Health reported through REP. MCCARTHY VAHEY of the 133rd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING A WORKING GROUP REGARDING ENDOMETRIOSIS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective from passage*) (a) There is established a
2 working group regarding endometriosis for the purpose of evaluating
3 and making recommendations regarding the diagnosis, treatment,
4 research, education and public awareness of endometriosis in the state.
5 The working group shall be within the Legislative Department. The
6 working group shall evaluate the following:

7 (1) The prevalence and impact of endometriosis on residents of the
8 state;

9 (2) Barriers to timely and accurate diagnosis of endometriosis;

10 (3) Access to evidence-based treatment for endometriosis, including,
11 but not limited to, medical, surgical and therapeutic interventions;

12 (4) Insurance coverage and reimbursement practices for the
13 treatment of endometriosis;

14 (5) The impact of endometriosis in the workplace, including, but not
15 limited to, leave, accommodations and employment protections;

16 (6) Gaps in public and provider education and training concerning
17 endometriosis; and

18 (7) Opportunities to improve endometriosis data collection, research
19 initiatives and patient outcomes.

20 (b) The working group shall consist of the following members, who
21 shall be appointed not later than thirty days after the effective date of
22 this section:

23 (1) Four appointed by the speaker of the House of Representatives,
24 one of whom shall be a member of the House or Representatives, one of
25 whom shall be a physician licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the
26 general statutes with demonstrated experience in the diagnosis and
27 treatment of endometriosis, one of whom shall be a representative of a
28 federally qualified health center and one of whom shall be an individual
29 residing in the state who has been diagnosed with endometriosis;

30 (2) Four appointed by the president pro tempore of the Senate, one of
31 whom shall be a member of the Senate, one of whom shall be a physician
32 licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the general statutes who is a member
33 of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, one of
34 whom shall be a researcher affiliated with an academic or research
35 institution in the state with expertise in endometriosis and one of whom
36 shall be a patient advocate with experience advocating on behalf of
37 individuals with endometriosis;

38 (3) Four appointed by the minority leader of the House of
39 Representatives, one of whom shall be a member of the House of
40 Representatives, one of whom shall be a pediatric or an adolescent
41 medicine physician licensed pursuant to chapter 370 of the general
42 statutes and currently practicing in the state, one of whom shall be an

43 individual in the state with expertise in racial and health equity or who
44 represents a community-based organization serving historically
45 underserved populations and one of whom shall be a representative of
46 an association of hospitals in the state or an administrator of a hospital
47 in the state;

48 (4) Four appointed by the minority leader of the Senate, one of whom
49 shall be a member of the Senate, one of whom shall be a representative
50 of a school-based health center in the state, one of whom shall be a
51 representative of a therapeutic or pharmaceutical manufacturer with
52 experience in treatments related to endometriosis and one of whom
53 shall be an individual residing in the state who has been diagnosed with
54 endometriosis;

55 (5) The Commissioner of Public Health, or the commissioner's
56 designee;

57 (6) The Insurance Commissioner, or the commissioner's designee;
58 and

59 (7) The cochairpersons of the endometriosis data and biorepository
60 program established pursuant to section 10a-132f of the general statutes.

61 (c) Except for members of the General Assembly, members who
62 represent state agencies and the cochairpersons of the endometriosis
63 data and biorepository program, six of the members first appointed
64 shall serve for a term of two years, six of such members shall serve for a
65 term of three years and, thereafter, members shall serve for a term of
66 two years. The executive director of the Commission on Women,
67 Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity shall determine which of the
68 members first appointed shall serve for a term of two years and which
69 of such members shall serve for a term of three years. Any vacancy shall
70 be filled by the appointing authority not later than thirty calendar days
71 after the appointment becomes vacant. Any member previously
72 appointed to the working group may be reappointed. The members of
73 the working group shall receive no compensation for their services but
74 may be reimbursed for any necessary expenses incurred in the

75 performance of their duties.

76 (d) The administrative staff of the Commission on Women, Children,
77 Seniors, Equity and Opportunity shall serve as administrative staff of
78 the working group. The executive director of said commission shall
79 schedule the first meeting of the working group which shall be held not
80 later than sixty days after the effective date of this section. The working
81 group shall appoint a chairperson and vice-chairperson from among its
82 members at its first meeting. The working group shall meet not less than
83 quarterly and provide an opportunity for public comment at its
84 meetings.

85 (e) Not later than January 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, the
86 working group shall report to the Governor and, in accordance with the
87 provisions of section 11-4a of the general statutes, to the joint standing
88 committees of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters
89 relating to human services and public health regarding its evaluation
90 and recommendations, including, but not limited to, for legislation
91 necessary to implement any of such recommendations.

| | | |
|---|---------------------|-------------|
| This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections: | | |
| Section 1 | <i>from passage</i> | New section |

PH Joint Favorable Subst.

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

| Agency Affected | Fund-Effect | FY 27 \$ | FY 28 \$ |
|-------------------|---------------------|----------|----------|
| Legislative Mgmt. | GF - Potential Cost | Minimal | Minimal |

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill creates an endometriosis working group and allows members to be reimbursed for any necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties. This results in a potential minimal cost to the Office of Legislative Management to the extent reimbursements are requested.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 5322*****AN ACT CONCERNING A WORKING GROUP REGARDING ENDOMETRIOSIS.*****SUMMARY**

This bill establishes a 20-member endometriosis working group within the Legislative Department to evaluate and make recommendations on endometriosis diagnosis, treatment, research, education, and public awareness in Connecticut.

Under the bill, the working group must annually report, starting by January 1, 2027, to the governor and the Human Services and Public Health committees on its evaluation and recommendations, including any legislation needed to implement them.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

ENDOMETRIOSIS WORKING GROUP***Evaluation***

The bill requires the working group to evaluate the following:

1. the prevalence and impact of endometriosis in Connecticut;
2. barriers to timely and accurate diagnosis;
3. access to evidence-based treatments, such as medical, surgical, and therapeutic interventions;
4. insurance coverage and reimbursement practices for treating the condition;
5. the impact of the condition in the workplace, including leave, accommodations, and employment protections;
6. gaps in public and provider education and training; and

7. opportunities to improve data collection, research, and patient outcomes.

Membership

Under the bill, the working group’s membership includes the (1) insurance and public health commissioners or their designees and (2) co-chairpersons of the state’s endometriosis data and biorepository program (see BACKGROUND). It also includes the following 16 appointed members listed in the table below:

Table: Endometriosis Working Group Appointed Members

| Appointing Authority | Member Qualifications |
|----------------------------------|---|
| House speaker (4) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One House member • One Connecticut-licensed physician experienced in diagnosing and treating endometriosis • One representative of a federally qualified health center • One state resident diagnosed with endometriosis |
| Senate president pro tempore (4) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Senate member • One physician member of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology • One researcher affiliated with a Connecticut academic or research institution with expertise in endometriosis • One patient advocate with experience advocating on behalf of people with endometriosis |
| House minority leader (4) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One House member • One pediatric or adolescent medicine physician currently practicing in the state • One expert in racial and health equity or representative of a community-based organization serving historically underserved populations • One representative of a state hospital association or a Connecticut hospital administrator |
| Senate minority leader (4) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One Senate member • One representative of a school-based health center • One representative of a therapeutic or drug manufacturer experienced in endometriosis-related treatments • One state resident diagnosed with endometriosis |

The bill staggers appointed members’ terms (except for legislators) as determined by the Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity’s (CWCSEO) executive director, with six initial

appointees serving a two-year term, and the other six serving a three-year term. After that, members serve two-year terms and may be reappointed.

The bill requires appointing authorities to make initial appointments within 30 days of the bill’s passage and fill any vacancy within 30 days.

Under the bill, members serve without compensation but may be reimbursed for their necessary expenses in performing their duties.

Meetings and Leadership

CWCSEO’s executive director must schedule and hold the first meeting within 60 days after the bill’s passage. The working group must appoint a chairperson and vice-chairperson from among its members at the first meeting.

Under the bill, the working group must meet at least quarterly and provide opportunities for public comment at the meetings.

The bill requires the CWCSEO administrative staff to serve in this capacity for the working group.

BACKGROUND

Endometriosis Data and Biorepository Program

In 2023, the legislature directed UConn Health and The Jackson Laboratory to create an endometriosis data and biorepository program to promote research on (1) early detection of endometriosis in adolescents and adults and (2) developing therapeutic strategies to improve clinical management of the condition. The program, EndoRISE, focuses on administering the endometriosis biorepository, public awareness, and clinical education.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 32 Nay 0 (03/23/2026)