

# Public Health Committee JOINT FAVORABLE REPORT

**Bill No:** HB-5322 / [Bill Status](#) / [Public Hearing Testimony](#)

**Title:** AN ACT CONCERNING A WORKING GROUP REGARDING ENDOMETRIOSIS.

**Vote Date:** 3/23/2026

**Vote Action:** JFS

**PH Date:** 3/4/2026

**File No.:** 514

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## **SPONSORS OF BILL:**

The Public Health Committee.

## **REASONS FOR BILL:**

Endometriosis is a frequently underdiagnosed condition resulting in delayed diagnosis, inconsistent treatment and gaps in provider and patient education. This bill creates a 20-member working group to evaluate and make recommendations on the diagnosis, treatment, research, education and public awareness of the disease. The Commission on Women, Children, Seniors, Equity and Opportunity (CWCSEO) will serve as administrative staff for the working group. By January 1, 2027 the working group must report annually to the governor, Human Services and Public Health committees with its evaluation and recommendations for moving forward. This may include any legislation proposed to implement their findings.

## **SUBSTITUTE LANGUAGE (IF APPLICABLE):**

The substitute language requires the following:

- Appointment of members to be made by the Speaker of the House, Senate President pro tempore, and the House and Senate minority leaders rather than the Human Services' Committee house chairperson.
- Expands the topics consider by the working group.
- Establishes the requirements for meetings, leadership, administrative support and terms for the members.

## **RESPONSE FROM ADMINISTRATION/AGENCY:**

None expressed.

## **NATURE AND SOURCES OF SUPPORT:**

### **Liz Gustafson, MSW, CT State Director, Reproductive Equity Now:**

The working group created in 2023 recommended creation of the Endometriosis Data and Biorepository Program that focused on addressing the unmet clinical needs of the 80,000 Connecticut residents living with this debilitating condition. This landmark legislation not only created the most comprehensive endometriosis initiative in the nation but made our state a national leader in health innovation. HB 5322 would formally establish an Endometriosis Working Group creating an infrastructure to further evaluate methods of diagnosis, treatment education and recommendations regarding this debilitating condition.

### **Elise Courtois, PhD, Jackson Laboratory, Endo Rise Co-Director**

### **Danielle Luciano, MD, UConn Health Center, Endo Rise Co-Chair:**

Both Ms. Courtois and Ms. Luciano are members of the CT Endometriosis Working Group advanced by this committee in 2023 that championed the recommendation which created the Endometriosis Data and Biorepository Program. This landmark legislation established an endometriosis initiative to show how states can address underfunded women's health conditions. The biorepository has collected over 5,500 specimens from 106 participants across Connecticut sending samples to its first therapeutic partner to accelerate the discovery of new diagnostics and treatments for endometriosis. It is critical to maintain a formalized Working Group to preserve stakeholder engagement, continued policy initiatives and the necessary funding to continue its work. HB 5322 will ensure continuity of this program to advance research, education and health outcomes for endometrial care.

### **Jaya Dadwal, CEO and co- founder of for EVA**

### **Emily Deschenes, CSO and co-founder of for EVA:**

Historically, women's health policy and research have focused on two areas: fertility and breast cancer. Endometriosis is a prevalent and underrecognized condition that deserves expanded attention. HB 5322 would formalize a multidisciplinary working group that would provide Connecticut with an opportunity to evaluate current diagnostic pathways, identify gaps in provider education, and recommend approaches to reduce delays in treatment for this debilitating condition.

### **Connecticut Hospital Association (CHA):**

CHA supports this legislation as endometriosis is frequently underdiagnosed resulting in delayed and often inconsistent treatment. There exist gaps in provider and patient education regarding the diagnosis and treatment of this condition. Hospitals bring clinical expertise and experience across the healthcare spectrum providing coordinated multidisciplinary care from pain management to surgical interventions. CHA respectfully urges the bill language be amended to include a representative of CHA as a member of the working group.

### **Amanda Rostkowski, MD, PhD, Women's Health CT:**

With the creation of the state sponsored endometriosis tissue biorepository EndoRISE Connecticut is already invested in addressing this debilitating condition. HB 5322 will ensure this work will continue.

**Iyanna Lies, MD, Vice Chair, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG):**

ACOG supports this legislation advancing guidance in the diagnosis, treatment and education regarding endometriosis. ACOG respectfully requests that one of the members appointed to the working group be an ob-gyn and a member of ACOG who can bring valuable clinical experience to the discussion.

**The following individuals submitted testimony similar to the above in support of this bill:**

- Y Mckenna
- Samatha Agostino

**NATURE AND SOURCES OF OPPOSITION:**

None expressed.

**Reported by: Kathleen Panazza**

**Date: March 24, 2026**