

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. RES. _____

Recognizing the seriousness of polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) and expressing support for the designation of September 2026 as “PCOS Awareness Month”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Ms. WARREN (for herself and Mrs. FISCHER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on _____

RESOLUTION

Recognizing the seriousness of polycystic ovary syndrome (PCOS) and expressing support for the designation of September 2026 as “PCOS Awareness Month”.

Whereas polycystic ovary syndrome (referred to in this preamble as “PCOS”) is a common health problem among women and girls involving multiple systems of the body, including hormones, metabolism, and mental and reproductive health;

Whereas there is no universal definition of PCOS, but researchers estimate that 10 percent of women in the United States are affected by the condition;

Whereas, according to a 2023 study, the annual burden of PCOS in the United States is estimated to be in excess of \$15,000,000,000, and this estimate does not include—

2

(1) the cost of all comorbidities in post-menopause or adolescence; or

(2) indirect and intangible costs related to the disorder;

Whereas PCOS can affect girls at the onset of puberty and throughout the remainder of their lives;

Whereas the symptoms of PCOS include infertility, irregular or absent menstrual periods, acne, weight gain, thinning of scalp hair, excessive facial and body hair growth, numerous small ovarian follicles, pelvic pain, and mental health problems;

Whereas research has found that women with PCOS have higher rates of mental health disorders, including depression, anxiety, bipolar disorder, and eating disorders, and are potentially at greater risk for suicide;

Whereas up to 70 percent of women with PCOS are undiagnosed;

Whereas PCOS is one of the most common causes of female infertility;

Whereas PCOS in pregnancy is associated with increased risk of gestational diabetes, preeclampsia, pregnancy-induced hypertension, preterm delivery, cesarean delivery, miscarriage, and fetal and infant death;

Whereas the cause of PCOS is unknown, but researchers have found strong links to a genetic predisposition, significant insulin resistance and cardiometabolic issues (including prediabetes and type 2 diabetes), high blood pressure, high cholesterol, stroke, metabolic dysfunction-associated liver disease (formerly known as nonalcoholic fatty liver disease), and heart disease (the leading cause of death among women);

Whereas adolescents with PCOS often are not diagnosed, and many have metabolic dysfunction and insulin resistance (which can lead to type 2 diabetes), cardiovascular disease, obstructive sleep apnea, metabolic dysfunction-associated liver disease (formerly known as nonalcoholic fatty liver disease), heart disease, and endometrial cancer at a young adult age;

Whereas research suggests PCOS may be associated with increased risk for breast and ovarian cancer, and the risk of developing endometrial cancer is 4 times higher than for women who do not have PCOS;

Whereas PCOS negatively alters metabolic function independent of, but exacerbated by, an increased body mass index (commonly referred to as “BMI”);

Whereas there is no known cure for PCOS; and

Whereas, in 2026, “polyendocrine metabolic ovarian syndrome” (or “PMOS”) was selected as the new name for PCOS through an international multistakeholder process that provides for both terms to remain in use during a multiyear transition: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) recognizes polycystic ovary syndrome (re-
3 ferred to in this resolution as “PCOS”) as a serious
4 disorder that impacts many aspects of health, in-
5 cluding cardiometabolic, reproductive, and mental
6 health, and quality of life;

7 (2) expresses support for the designation of
8 September 2026 as “PCOS Awareness Month”;

1 (3) supports the goals and ideals of PCOS
2 Awareness Month, which are—

3 (A) to increase awareness of, and edu-
4 cation about, PCOS and its connection to
5 comorbidities, such as type 2 diabetes,
6 endometrial cancer, cardiovascular disease, met-
7 abolic dysfunction-associated liver disease, and
8 mental health disorders, among the general
9 public, women, girls, and health care profes-
10 sionals;

11 (B) to improve diagnosis and treatment of
12 PCOS;

13 (C) to disseminate information on diag-
14 nosis, treatment, and management of PCOS,
15 including prevention of comorbidities such as
16 type 2 diabetes, endometrial cancer, cardio-
17 vascular disease, metabolic dysfunction-associ-
18 ated liver disease, and eating disorders; and

19 (D) to improve quality of life and outcomes
20 for women and girls with PCOS;

21 (4) recognizes the need for further research,
22 improved treatment and care options, and a cure for
23 PCOS;

1 (5) acknowledges the struggles affecting all
2 women and girls who have PCOS in the United
3 States;

4 (6) urges medical researchers and health care
5 professionals to advance their understanding of
6 PCOS to improve research, diagnosis, and treatment
7 of PCOS for women and girls; and

8 (7) encourages States, territories, and localities
9 to support the goals and ideals of PCOS Awareness
10 Month.