



MITA[®]
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June 29, 2022

VIA ELECTRONIC DELIVERY

The Honorable Anna Eshoo, Chairwoman
The Honorable Brett Guthrie, Ranking Member
United States House of Representatives
Energy and Commerce Committee
Health Subcommittee
2125 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

RE: H.R. 2007, Stephanie Tubbs Jones Uterine Fibroid Research and Education Act of 2021

Dear Chairwoman Eshoo and Ranking Member Guthrie:

As the leading trade association representing the manufacturers of medical imaging equipment, radiopharmaceuticals, contrast media, and focused ultrasound therapeutic devices, the Medical Imaging and Technology Alliance (MITA) writes to share our support for H.R. 2007, Stephanie Tubbs Jones Uterine Fibroid Research and Education Act of 2021.

Most American women will develop fibroids at some point in their life, with many experiencing pain, discomfort and in some cases, reproductive challenges. Fibroids are typically removed using invasive surgery that can require up to 6 weeks of recovery and can result in infertility. There is a need for greater understanding, adoption and access to noninvasive treatment options, like focused ultrasound, that can remove fibroids while preserving fertility and getting women back to work and their daily activities as soon as the day after treatment.

MRI-guided focused ultrasound was approved by the US Food and Drug Administration in 2004 for the treatment of uterine fibroids, but currently no major U.S. insurance company or federal payers provide consistent coverage and reimbursement for focused ultrasound treatment of fibroids. Addressing this coverage disparity that limits equitable access to thousands of women a year from receiving non-invasive fibroid treatments that have low complications, can be done in an outpatient setting, and preserves fertility is critically important.

If passed, the Stephanie Tubbs Jones Uterine Fibroid Research and Education Act of 2021 would require research into Medicaid coverage of uterine fibroids treatments and conduct public education on the availability of treatment options, including non-hysterectomy treatments and procedures. We believe research into fibroid treatment coverage and improved education on alternative medical options is an important first step towards awareness of this prevalent condition and adoption of noninvasive treatments, like focused ultrasound.

Resources for uterine fibroid research and evaluation of coverage for noninvasive treatments is necessary to establish improved patient access and treatment for fibroids impacting the majority of American women. We urge Congress to pass H.R. 2007, Stephanie Tubbs Jones Uterine Fibroid Research and Education Act of 2021.

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If you have any questions, please contact Holly Grosholz, Director, Government Relations, at hgrosholz@medicalimaging.org or 703-841-3228.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patrick Hope". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "P" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Patrick Hope
Executive Director, MITA

MITA is the collective voice of manufacturers of medical imaging equipment, radiopharmaceuticals, contrast media, and focused ultrasound therapeutic devices. It represents companies whose sales comprise more than 90 percent of the global market for medical imaging innovations. These products include: magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), medical X-Ray equipment, computed tomography (CT) scanners, ultrasound, nuclear imaging, radiopharmaceuticals, and imaging information systems. MITA Member company technologies are an important part of our nation's healthcare infrastructure and are essential for the screening, diagnosis, staging, managing and effectively treating patients with cancer, heart disease, neurological degeneration, and numerous other medical conditions.