

106TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. RES. 237

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with regard to  
fibromyalgia.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 30, 1999

Mr. LUCAS of Oklahoma submitted the following resolution; which was  
referred to the Committee on Commerce

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## RESOLUTION

Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives with  
regard to fibromyalgia.

Whereas fibromyalgia is a chronic disorder characterized by  
widespread musculoskeletal pain and tenderness in local-  
ized areas of the neck, spine, shoulders, and hips called  
“tender points,” as well as by fatigue, restless sleep, and  
discomfort in other organ areas, such as the intestine and  
the temporomandibular joint;

Whereas, according to the Arthritis Foundation, fibromyalgia  
affects approximately 3.7 million people in the United  
States;

Whereas a disproportionate number of those affected by  
fibromyalgia are women;

Whereas the exact cause of fibromyalgia is unknown, but fibromyalgia may be triggered by stress, trauma, or possibly an infectious agent in susceptible people; and

Whereas there is no known cure for fibromyalgia, but a combination of exercise, medication, physical therapy, and relaxation can help relieve the symptoms of fibromyalgia: Now, therefore, be it

1       *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2               (1) recognizes the severity of the issue of  
3       fibromyalgia;

4               (2) calls on the United States as a whole to  
5       support individuals affected by fibromyalgia through  
6       public awareness and education;

7               (3) recognizes the leadership of the Arthritis  
8       Foundation, the Centers for Disease Control and  
9       Prevention, and the States in developing the Na-  
10      tional Arthritis Action Plan which includes strate-  
11      gies to address all forms of arthritis, including  
12      fibromyalgia;

13              (4) recognizes the importance of committing re-  
14      sources to the National Arthritis Action Plan which  
15      the Arthritis Foundation, the Centers for Disease  
16      Control and Prevention, and the States have just  
17      begun to implement;

18              (5) recognizes the importance of scientific re-  
19      search in determining the cause (or causes) of and  
20      effective treatments for fibromyalgia; and

1           (6) recognizes the importance of committing re-  
2       sources to the Arthritis Foundation, the National  
3       Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin  
4       Diseases, and other relevant Federal research insti-  
5       tutions to help pinpoint the cause (or causes) of  
6       fibromyalgia, and eventually to find a cure for  
7       fibromyalgia.

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