By Senator Margolis

35-2017-04 See HR 9023

Senate Resolution No.

A resolution recognizing the month of March 2004 as Endometriosis Awareness Month.

WHEREAS, endometriosis, a condition involving abnormal uterine cell growth, affects more women than does breast cancer, striking more than 5.5 million teens and women in the United States alone and nearly 70 million worldwide, and

WHEREAS, studies have shown an elevated risk of certain cancers and autoimmune diseases in endometriosis patients, and endometriosis is a leading cause of female infertility and hysterectomy, and

WHEREAS, endometriosis may have a debilitating impact on a woman's life and her relationships, in some cases rendering her unable to work, to care for herself or her family, or to go about her normal routines, and

WHEREAS, there is currently no definitive cure for endometriosis, and

WHEREAS, the Endometriosis Research Center (ERC) is a nonprofit organization founded in 1997 to address the needs of the international community of individuals who suffer from endometriosis and to improve the quality of life for those with the disease through education and support programs, and

WHEREAS, the Endometriosis Research Center works to raise awareness about endometriosis throughout the medical and lay communities and raises funds to facilitate and promote existing research for effective treatments and, ultimately, a cure for the disease, and

WHEREAS, in observance of the anniversary of the Endometriosis Research Center, events and activities, including "ERC Casual Days," are held annually during the

month of March in an effort to educate the general public about the significance of this disease, to support and assist women living with the disease, and to raise funds for the organization's efforts, NOW, THEREFORE, Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Florida: That the Florida Senate pauses in its deliberations to recognize the worthy efforts of the Endometriosis Research Center and to recognize March 2004 as Endometriosis Awareness Month.