



Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee

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Summary SB 609 PN 599

This legislation creates the Prostate Cancer Surveillance, Education, Detection and Treatment Act.

The Department of Health (DOH) is directed to convene as task force for the purpose of investigating and making recommendations concerning prostate cancer and related prostate cancer conditions. More specifically, the task force shall make recommendations regarding:

- Detection, diagnosis and treatment
- Public policy, education and screening guidelines
- Development of programs of information, education and ensuring access to screening regardless of insurance coverage
- Cooperation with other departments in the dissemination of educational information

The task force shall be composed of the Secretaries of Health, State, Aging, and Human Services as well as the Insurance Commissioner. In addition, the task force shall include four physicians with knowledge concerning prostate cancer treatment of which two shall be certified in urology and two practicing radiation oncologists treating prostate cancer. Finally, an epidemiologist, two representatives from patient groups, one prostate cancer patient or a family member, and two registered nurses one of whom must be a certified registered nurse practitioner shall be included. All must have knowledge regarding prostate cancer.

Members of the task force shall be appointed by the Secretary of Health within 45 days of the effective date of the act. Similarly, the task force shall convene its first meeting within 90 days of the effective date. Within one year of the first meeting, the task force shall issue a report to the secretary which shall be transmitted to the Senate Public Health and Welfare Committee and the House

Health Committee. Interim reports may be made. Members may not receive compensation for their services but are entitled to reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses which will be reimbursed by the department.

The Department of Health shall develop programs of information and education as well as programs on accessing screening regardless of insurance coverage. DOH shall also cooperate with other government departments and professional associations in disseminating educational materials. The department is charged with identifying and applying for public and private grants to carry out the requirements of the act.

Amendment A01530

This amendment deletes the definition of state officials, removes legislative membership on the task force, requires DOH to assist male residents in accessing prostate cancer screening instead of ensuring access to the screening, and adds an expiration date for the act of June 30, 2019.

Effective Date

This act shall take effect immediately.