
HOUSE BILL 2012

State of Washington 55th Legislature 1997 Regular Session

By Representatives Dyer, Cody, Backlund, Cooke, Keiser and Costa

Read first time 02/18/97. Referred to Committee on Health Care.

1 AN ACT Relating to prostate cancer screening and treatment
2 education; adding new sections to chapter 43.70 RCW; creating new
3 sections; and making an appropriation.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** This act may be known and cited as the
6 prostate cancer screening and treatment education act.

7 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** (1) The legislature finds the following:

8 (a) Prostate cancer is the most common cancer, and second cause of
9 cancer death in men. It is estimated that in 1996, nearly three
10 hundred seventeen thousand American males were diagnosed with prostate
11 cancer and forty-one thousand four hundred died of it. This number is
12 fast approaching the annual breast cancer toll of forty-four thousand
13 three hundred.

14 (b) As with other cancers, early detection of prostate cancer is
15 critical to effective, life-saving treatment.

16 (c) The cure rate for prostate, if detected before metastis is
17 eighty-four percent.

1 (d) According to the American cancer society an annual screening
2 including the PSA test and a DRE is recommended for certain suspect
3 classes, including:

4 (i) Asymptomatic men, aged fifty and over;

5 (ii) African-American men, aged forty and over; and

6 (iii) Men over age forty with a family history of prostate cancer.

7 The annual screening is to enhance early detection of prostate
8 cancer.

9 (e) Although one in eleven American men will have a serious
10 encounter with prostate cancer in his lifetime, and a quarter of those
11 will die of it, many men are only vaguely aware of the disease, its
12 treatment, and its consequences.

13 (f) Educating the men of Washington state as well as the Washington
14 health care community about this potentially devastating disease is of
15 paramount importance in order to save lives in the future.

16 (2) The purposes of chapter . . . , Laws of 1997 (this act) are to:

17 (a) Create and foster a state-wide program to promote public
18 awareness and knowledge about the risk factors, the value of early
19 detection, and the options available for the treatment of prostate
20 cancer;

21 (b) Heighten awareness and enhance knowledge and understanding of
22 prostate cancer by disseminating education materials, information about
23 research results, services, and strategies for detection and treatment
24 to patients, health professionals, policymakers, state and local health
25 and human service officials, and the public;

26 (c) Utilize educational and training resources and services that
27 have been developed by organizations with appropriate expertise and
28 knowledge of prostate cancer and to use available technical assistance;

29 (d) Evaluate existing prostate cancer support services in the
30 community and assess the need for improving the quality and
31 accessibility of these services; and

32 (e) Provide easy access to clear, complete, and accurate prostate
33 cancer information and patient referral services.

34 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** The secretary shall:

35 (1) Provide sufficient appropriately trained staff to implement the
36 prostate cancer detection and treatment education program, which is
37 based on the most up-to-date scientific information and findings;

1 (2) Ensure that the department carries out its role in coordinating
2 the efforts of governmental offices, community and business leaders,
3 community organizations, health care and human service providers, and
4 national prostate cancer organizations in areas of prevention,
5 education, and treatment of prostate cancer;

6 (3) Ensure that the use of state resources are maximized by means
7 of the coordination of efforts and when appropriate the replication or
8 use of existing successful prostate cancer programs and their related
9 materials and services; and

10 (4) Establish a confidential data collection program as determined
11 to be necessary to facilitate the state's ability to monitor and
12 evaluate the effectiveness of the entities and the program.

13 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** The department shall:

14 (1) Establish, promote, and maintain prostate cancer and treatment
15 education programs as an integral part of its health promotion and
16 disease prevention efforts in order to raise public awareness, educate
17 consumers, educate and train health professionals, teachers, and human
18 service providers, and for other purposes; and

19 (2) Identify existing resources in the area of prostate cancer
20 education, screenings and treatment education and work to coordinate
21 the efforts of existing organizations with new programs and with each
22 other, so as to maximize education and access to services.

23 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** Within available resources, the department
24 may use and coordinate the following strategies for raising public
25 awareness on the causes and nature of prostate cancer, personal risk
26 factors, value of prevention and early detection, and options for
27 diagnosing and treating the disease, including the risks, and benefits
28 of drug therapies currently approved by the United States food and drug
29 administration:

30 (1) An outreach campaign utilizing print, radio and television
31 public service announcements, advertisements, posters, and other
32 materials;

33 (2) Community forums;

34 (3) Health information and risk factor assessment at public events;

35 (4) Targeting at-risk populations;

36 (5) Providing reliable information to policymakers;

1 (6) Distributing information through county health departments,
2 schools, area agencies on aging, employer wellness programs,
3 physicians, hospitals and health maintenance organizations, men's
4 groups, sports leagues, nonprofit organizations, community-based
5 organizations, and department regional offices;

6 (7) Identifying and obtaining educational materials including
7 brochures and videotapes which translate accurately the latest
8 scientific information on prostate cancer in easy-to-understand terms;

9 (8) Building a state-wide capacity to provide information and
10 referral on all aspects of prostate cancer, including educational
11 materials and counseling;

12 (9) Establishing state linkage with an existing toll-free hotline
13 for consumers; and

14 (10) Facilitating the development and maintenance of prostate
15 cancer support groups.

16 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** Within available resources, the department
17 may use the following strategies for educating physicians and health
18 professionals and training community service providers on the most up-
19 to-date, accurate scientific and medical information on prostate cancer
20 detection, diagnosis, and treatment, therapeutic decision making,
21 including guidelines for detecting and treating the disease in special
22 populations, risks and benefits of medications, and research advances:

23 (1) Identify and obtain educational materials for the professional
24 that translates the latest scientific and medical information into
25 clinical applications;

26 (2) Raise awareness among physicians and health and human services
27 professionals as to the importance of prostate cancer early detection,
28 treatment, and rehabilitation;

29 (3) Identify and use available curricula for training health and
30 human service providers and community leaders on prostate cancer
31 detection and treatment;

32 (4) Provide workshops and seminars for in-depth professional
33 development in the field of the care and management of the patient with
34 prostate cancer; and

35 (5) Conduct a state-wide conference on prostate cancer at
36 appropriate intervals.

1 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** (1) Within available resources, the
2 department may conduct a needs assessment to identify:

3 (a) Research being conducted within the state;

4 (b) Available technical assistance and educational materials and
5 programs nationwide;

6 (c) Levels of public and professional awareness about prostate
7 cancer;

8 (d) Needs of prostate cancer patients, their families, and
9 caregivers;

10 (e) Needs of health care providers, including physicians, nurses,
11 managed care organizations, and other health care providers;

12 (f) Services available to the prostate cancer patient;

13 (g) Existence of prostate cancer treatment programs;

14 (h) Existence of prostate cancer support groups; and

15 (i) Existence of rehabilitation services.

16 (2) Based on the needs assessment, the department shall develop and
17 maintain a list of prostate cancer-related services and health care
18 providers with specialization in services to detect, diagnose, and
19 treat prostate cancer. This list must be disseminated with a
20 description of diagnostic testing procedures, appropriate indications
21 for their use, drug therapies currently approved by the United States
22 food and drug administration, and a cautionary statement about the
23 current status of prostate cancer research, detection, and treatment.

24 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** (1) The department may replicate and use
25 successful prostate cancer programs and either or both enter into
26 contracts and purchase materials or services from organizations with
27 appropriate expertise and knowledge of prostate cancer for such
28 services and materials as, but not limited to, the following:

29 (a) Educational information and materials on the risk factors,
30 detection, treatment, and management of prostate cancer;

31 (b) Training of the department;

32 (c) Physician and health care professional education and training
33 and clinical conferences;

34 (d) Conference organization and staffing;

35 (e) Regional office development and staffing;

36 (f) Nominations for advisory panels;

37 (g) Support group development;

38 (h) Consultation;

- 1 (i) Resource library facilities;
- 2 (j) Training home health aides and nursing home personnel; and
- 3 (k) Training teachers.

4 (2) The department may enter into an agreement or agreements to
5 work with a national organization or organizations with expertise in
6 prostate cancer to establish and staff an office or offices of that
7 organization in the state to implement parts of the prostate cancer
8 program.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** (1) The governor shall designate a week as
10 "prostate cancer education week" and shall make such resolutions as are
11 necessary to heighten awareness of prostate cancer, its detection, and
12 treatment during that week.

13 (2) The department shall coordinate, sponsor, support, or otherwise
14 cause to be held state-wide, public events and outreach efforts in
15 support of prostate cancer education week, which shall include, to the
16 extent appropriate, education efforts described in section 5 of this
17 act.

18 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** The secretary may accept grants, services,
19 and property from the federal government, foundations, organizations,
20 medical schools, and other entities as may be available for the
21 purposes of fulfilling the obligations of this program.

22 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** The secretary shall seek any federal waiver
23 or waivers that may be necessary to maximize funds from the federal
24 government to implement this program.

25 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 12.** The sum of dollars, or as much
26 thereof as may be necessary, is appropriated for the biennium ending
27 June 30, 1999, from the general fund to the department of health for
28 the purposes of this act.

29 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 13.** Sections 3 through 11 of this act are each
30 added to chapter 43.70 RCW.

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