

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to the Prostate Cancer Awareness Program;
3 amending s. 381.911, F.S.; deleting the funding
4 qualification for the Prostate Cancer Awareness Program;
5 revising the structure and objectives of the Prostate
6 Cancer Awareness Program; authorizing the University of
7 Florida Prostate Disease Center, in collaboration with
8 other organizations and institutions, to increase
9 community education and public awareness of prostate
10 cancer; requiring the University of Florida Prostate
11 Disease Center to establish a prostate cancer advisory
12 council to replace the existing advisory committee;
13 providing for membership and duties of the advisory
14 council; requiring an annual report to the Governor,
15 Legislature, and State Surgeon General; providing an
16 effective date.

17
18 WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes that prostate cancer is
19 a major public health problem and that promoting awareness of
20 this disease is in the public interest of this state, and

21 WHEREAS, according to the Department of Health's Florida
22 Cancer Plan 2003-2006, prostate cancer was the most commonly
23 diagnosed cancer in Florida, accounting for one in every four
24 cancer diagnoses, and

25 WHEREAS, the costs for screening, staging, and treating
26 prostate cancer patients in both dollars and morbidity continue
27 to rise and threaten the foundation of this state's health
28 system, and

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WHEREAS, because African-American men are 2.8 times more likely to succumb to prostate cancer than their Caucasian counterparts, a call for action is mandatory, and

WHEREAS, there are currently no organized, active, or effective strategies to improve community education and awareness regarding the rising incidence of and the racial and ethnic disparities related to prostate cancer, and

WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that it is in the public interest for state agencies and institutions to work with the University of Florida Prostate Disease Center to establish the prostate cancer advisory council to more effectively serve the needs of the people of Florida, NOW, THEREFORE,

Be Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 381.911, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

381.911 Prostate Cancer Awareness Program.—

(1) ~~To the extent that funds are specifically made available for this purpose, the Prostate Cancer Awareness Program is established within the Department of Health. The purpose of this program is to implement the recommendations of January 2000 of the Florida Prostate Cancer Task Force to provide for statewide outreach,~~ promote prostate cancer awareness, communicate the advantages of early detection, report recent progress in prostate cancer research and the availability of clinical trials, minimize health disparities through outreach and education, communicate best practices principles to

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57 physicians involved in the care of prostate cancer patients, and
58 establish a communication platform for patients and their
59 advocates and health education activities to ensure that men are
60 aware of and appropriately seek medical counseling for prostate
61 cancer as an early-detection health care measure.

62 (2) For purposes of implementing the program, the
63 University of Florida Prostate Disease Center may work with
64 other agencies, organizations, and institutions to create a
65 systematic approach to community education and increase public
66 awareness regarding prostate cancer by Department of Health and
67 the Florida Public Health Institute, Inc., may:

68 (a) Conducting ~~Conduct~~ activities directly or entering
69 enter into a contract with a qualified nonprofit community
70 education entities ~~entity~~.

71 (b) Seeking ~~Seek~~ any available gifts, grants, or funds
72 from the state, the Federal Government, philanthropic
73 foundations, and industry or business groups.

74 (3) The University of Florida Prostate Disease Center
75 (UFPDC) shall establish the UFPDC Prostate Cancer Advisory
76 Council and lead the advisory council in developing and
77 implementing strategies to improve outreach and education and
78 thereby reduce the number of patients who develop prostate
79 cancer. A prostate cancer advisory committee is created to
80 advise and assist the Department of Health and the Florida
81 Public Health Institute, Inc., in implementing the program.

82 (a) The executive director of the University of Florida
83 Prostate Disease Center shall appoint, in consultation with the
84 Department of Health's Comprehensive Cancer Control Program and

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85 the State Surgeon General, a geographically and institutionally
86 diverse advisory council, which shall appoint the advisory
87 ~~committee members, who~~ shall consist of:

88 1. Two ~~Three~~ persons from prostate cancer survivor groups
89 or cancer-related advocacy groups.

90 2. Four ~~Three~~ persons, one of whom is a physician licensed
91 under chapter 458, one of whom is a physician licensed under
92 chapter 459, one of whom is a scientist, and one of whom is the
93 executive director of the University of Florida Prostate Disease
94 Center or a designee ~~who are scientists or clinicians from~~
95 ~~public universities or research organizations.~~

96 3. Three persons who are engaged in the practice of a
97 cancer-related medical specialty from health organizations
98 committed to cancer research and control.

99 (b) Members shall serve as volunteers without compensation
100 ~~but are entitled to reimbursement, pursuant to s. 112.061, for~~
101 ~~per diem and travel expenses incurred in the performance of~~
102 ~~their official duties.~~

103 (c) Each member of the advisory council shall be appointed
104 to a 4-year term; however, for the purpose of providing
105 staggered terms, of the initial appointments, four members shall
106 be appointed to 2-year terms and four members shall be appointed
107 to 4-year terms. The remaining seat shall be filled by the
108 executive director of the University of Florida Prostate Disease
109 Center or a designee.

110 (d) The advisory council shall meet annually and at other
111 times at the call of the executive director of the University of
112 Florida Prostate Disease Center or by a majority vote of the

113 members of the advisory council.

114 (e) Five of the members of the advisory council constitute
115 a quorum, and an affirmative vote of a majority of the members
116 present is required for final action.

117 (f) The advisory council shall:

118 1. Present prostate-cancer-related policy recommendations
119 to the Department of Health and other appropriate governmental
120 entities.

121 2. Assess the accuracy of prostate cancer information
122 disseminated to the public.

123 3. Develop effective communication channels among all
124 private and public entities in the state involved in prostate
125 cancer education, research, treatment, and patient advocacy.

126 4. Plan, develop, and implement activities designed to
127 heighten awareness and educate residents of the state,
128 especially those in underserved areas, regarding the importance
129 of prostate cancer awareness.

130 5. Disseminate information about recent progress in
131 prostate cancer research and the availability of clinical
132 trials.

133 6. Minimize health disparities through outreach and
134 education.

135 7. Communicate best practices principles to physicians
136 involved in the care of patients with prostate cancer.

137 8. Establish a communication platform for patients and
138 their advocates.

139 9. Solicit grants or philanthropic funding to conduct an
140 annual prostate cancer symposium that brings physicians,

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researchers, community leaders, prostate cancer survivors, and prostate cancer advocates together to highlight recent advances in prostate cancer research, clinical trials, and best practices used for the prevention of prostate cancer and to promote strategies for successful rural and urban outreach, community education, and increased awareness.

10. Submit and present an annual report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and the State Surgeon General by January 15, 2012, and by January 15 of each following year, which contains recommendations for legislative changes necessary to decrease the incidence of prostate cancer, decrease racial and ethnic disparities among persons diagnosed with prostate cancer, and promote increased community education and awareness regarding this disease.

~~(4) The program shall coordinate its efforts with those of the Florida Public Health Institute, Inc.~~

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.