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CS/CS/HB 137

2011 Legislature

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; requiring the
16 University of Florida Prostate Disease Center (UFPDC) and
17 the UFPDC Prostate Cancer Advisory Council to be funded
18 within existing resources of the university; providing an
19 effective date.

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

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

28 WHEREAS, the costs for screening, staging, and treating

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prostate cancer patients in both dollars and morbidity continue to rise and threaten the foundation of this state's health system, and

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~~

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recent progress in prostate cancer research and the availability of clinical trials, minimize health disparities through outreach and education, communicate best practices principles to physicians involved in the care of prostate cancer patients, and establish a communication platform for patients and their advocates and health education activities to ensure that men are aware of and appropriately seek medical counseling for prostate cancer as an early-detection health care measure.

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

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

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

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

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85 (a) The executive director of the University of Florida
86 Prostate Disease Center shall appoint, in consultation with the
87 Department of Health's Comprehensive Cancer Control Program and
88 the State Surgeon General, a geographically and institutionally
89 diverse advisory council, which shall appoint the advisory
90 ~~committee members, who~~ shall consist of:

91 1. Two ~~Three~~ persons from prostate cancer survivor groups
92 or cancer-related advocacy groups.

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

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

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

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

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113 (d) The advisory council shall meet annually and at other
114 times at the call of the executive director of the University of
115 Florida Prostate Disease Center or by a majority vote of the
116 members of the advisory council.

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

120 (f) The advisory council shall:

121 1. Present prostate-cancer-related policy recommendations
122 to the Department of Health and other appropriate governmental
123 entities.

124 2. Assess the accuracy of prostate cancer information
125 disseminated to the public.

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

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

133 5. Disseminate information about recent progress in
134 prostate cancer research and the availability of clinical
135 trials.

136 6. Minimize health disparities through outreach and
137 education.

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

140 8. Establish a communication platform for patients and

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141 their advocates.

142 9. Solicit private grants or philanthropic funding to
143 conduct an annual prostate cancer symposium that brings
144 physicians, researchers, community leaders, prostate cancer
145 survivors, and prostate cancer advocates together to highlight
146 recent advances in prostate cancer research, clinical trials,
147 and best practices used for the prevention of prostate cancer
148 and to promote strategies for successful rural and urban
149 outreach, community education, and increased awareness.

150 10. Submit and present an annual report to the Governor,
151 the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of
152 Representatives, and the State Surgeon General by January 15,
153 2012, and by January 15 of each following year, which contains
154 recommendations for legislative changes necessary to decrease
155 the incidence of prostate cancer, decrease racial and ethnic
156 disparities among persons diagnosed with prostate cancer, and
157 promote increased community education and awareness regarding
158 this disease.

159 (4) The University of Florida Prostate Disease Center
160 (UFPDC) and the UFPDC Prostate Cancer Advisory Council shall be
161 funded within existing resources of the university. ~~The program~~
162 ~~shall coordinate its efforts with those of the Florida Public~~
163 ~~Health Institute, Inc.~~

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