

By Senator Peaden

2-565-03

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to prostate cancer;  
3           establishing a Prostate Cancer Awareness  
4           Program within the Department of Health;  
5           specifying purpose, activities, administration,  
6           and funding sources for the program; creating a  
7           prostate cancer advisory committee; providing  
8           for appointment of members; providing for  
9           reimbursement of expenses; providing an  
10          effective date.

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12          WHEREAS, prostate cancer is the most common type of  
13          cancer and the second leading cause of death from cancer among  
14          men in the United States and in Florida, and

15          WHEREAS, an estimated 198,100 men in the United States  
16          will have been diagnosed with prostate cancer in 2001, 15,000  
17          of them residents of Florida, and

18          WHEREAS, an estimated 31,500 men in the United States  
19          will have died from prostate cancer in 2001, 2,400 of them  
20          residents of Florida, and

21          WHEREAS, Florida has both the second highest number of  
22          new cases of prostate cancer and the second highest number of  
23          deaths from prostate cancer in the United States, and

24          WHEREAS, the risk of being diagnosed with prostate  
25          cancer is higher among elderly men, and Florida has a high  
26          percentage of elderly men compared to other states, and

27          WHEREAS, African-American men have a 50-percent higher  
28          risk of being diagnosed with prostate cancer and are more than  
29          twice as likely to die from the disease than Caucasian men,  
30          but are less likely to be screened for the disease, and  
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1           WHEREAS, 74 percent of all prostate cancer among  
2 African-American men is detected at local and regional sites;  
3 however, the 5-year survival rate drops to 30 percent when  
4 prostate cancer has spread to distant sites, and

5           WHEREAS, the risk of being diagnosed with prostate  
6 cancer is 50 percent higher among men with a family history of  
7 prostate cancer, and

8           WHEREAS, the 5-year survival rate for men who have  
9 prostate cancer diagnosed at an early stage is 95 percent  
10 compared to 34 percent when diagnosis occurs at a late stage,  
11 and 68 percent of non-Caucasian men with prostate cancer in  
12 Florida are diagnosed at an early stage compared to 75 percent  
13 of Caucasian men, NOW, THEREFORE,

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15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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17           Section 1. Prostate Cancer Awareness Program.--

18           (1) This section may be cited as the "Prostate Cancer  
19 Awareness Act."

20           (2) To the extent that funds are specifically made  
21 available for this purpose, the Prostate Cancer Awareness  
22 Program is established within the Department of Health. The  
23 purpose of this program is to implement the January 2000  
24 recommendations of the Florida Prostate Cancer Task Force to  
25 provide statewide outreach and health education activities to  
26 ensure that men are aware of and appropriately seek medical  
27 counseling for prostate cancer as an early detection health  
28 care measure.

29           (3) The program shall use known effective strategies  
30 that may include, but are not limited to, radio and television  
31 advertisements, newspaper articles and feature stories,

1 community education outreach programs, peer education  
2 strategies, brochures, posters, videos, and computer-based  
3 resources.

4 (4) For purposes of implementing the program, the  
5 Department of Health may:

6 (a) Conduct activities directly or enter into a  
7 contract with a qualified nonprofit community education  
8 entity.

9 (b) Seek any available gifts, grants, or funds from  
10 the state, the Federal Government, philanthropic foundations,  
11 and industry or business groups.

12 (5) A prostate cancer advisory committee is created to  
13 advise and assist the Department of Health in implementing the  
14 program.

15 (a) The Secretary of Health shall appoint the advisory  
16 committee members, who shall consist of:

17 1. Three persons from prostate cancer survivor groups  
18 or cancer-related advocacy groups.

19 2. Three persons who are scientists or clinicians from  
20 public universities or research organizations.

21 3. Three persons who are practicing cancer medical  
22 specialists from health organizations with a commitment to  
23 cancer research and control.

24 (b) Members shall serve without compensation, but may,  
25 pursuant to section 112.061, Florida Statutes, receive  
26 reimbursement for per diem and travel expenses incurred in the  
27 performance of their official duties.

28 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.  
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SENATE SUMMARY

Establishes a Prostate Cancer Awareness Program within the Department of Health. Specifies program purpose and activities. Authorizes the department to enter into a contract and seek funding resources for program implementation. Creates an advisory committee, to be appointed by the department secretary, to advise and assist in implementing the program. Provides for reimbursement of committee members' per diem and travel expenses.