

By Senator Peaden

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1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to breast cancer; creating a referral
 3 program within the Department of Health for the early
 4 detection and treatment of breast cancer; providing
 5 definitions; providing requirements for the program;
 6 requiring the department to provide clinical breast
 7 examinations and screening mammograms for low-income
 8 women between specified ages; requiring that the State
 9 Surgeon General annually report to the Legislature the
 10 rate of breast cancer morbidity and mortality in this
 11 state and the extent of participation in breast cancer
 12 screening; requiring the organizations providing
 13 testing and treatment services to report to the
 14 department the insurer of each underinsured woman who
 15 is tested; providing an effective date.

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

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 19 Section 1. Referral program for the early detection and
 20 treatment of breast cancer.-

21 (1) As used in this section, the term:

22 (a) "Department" means the Department of Health.

23 (b) "Unserved or underserved populations" mean women who:

24 1. Have incomes at or below 200 percent of the federal
 25 poverty level for individuals;

26 2. Do not have health insurance that covers breast cancer
 27 screenings; and

28 3. Are between 19 and 64 years of age, inclusive.

29 (2) There is established, within existing appropriations, a

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30 referral program within the department for the early detection
31 and treatment of breast cancer for the purpose of promoting
32 screening, detection, and treatment of breast cancer among
33 unserved or underserved populations, educating the public
34 regarding breast cancer and the benefits of early detection, and
35 providing counseling and referral services for the treatment of
36 breast cancer.

37 (3) The program shall include, but need not be limited to:

38 (a) A public education and outreach initiative to publicize
39 early detection services for breast cancer, the extent of
40 coverage for such services by health insurers, the benefits of
41 early detection of breast cancer, and the recommended frequency
42 of screening services, including clinical breast examinations
43 and mammography.

44 (b) Education programs, including programs on the benefits
45 of early detection of breast cancer and the recommended
46 frequency of mammography.

47 (c) A system to track and provide followup services for all
48 women who are screened for breast cancer in the referral
49 program, including, but not limited to, followup services for
50 women who receive an abnormal screening test, referral of women
51 to treatment when needed, and scheduling women to be screened at
52 recommended screening intervals.

53 (d) Assurance that all participating health care providers
54 of breast cancer screening are in compliance with national and
55 state legislative mandates for quality assurance.

56 (4) The department shall provide unserved or underserved
57 populations, within existing appropriations, through contracts
58 with health care providers to provide clinical breast

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59 examinations and screening mammograms as recommended in the most
60 current guidelines for breast cancer screening established by
61 the United States Preventive Services Task Force.

62 (5) The State Surgeon General shall report annually to the
63 legislative committees that are responsible for public health
64 legislation and appropriations. The report shall include, but
65 need not be limited to, a description of the rate of breast
66 cancer morbidity and mortality in this state and the extent of
67 participation by women in breast cancer screening.

68 (6) The organizations that provide the testing and
69 treatment services in the referral program shall report to the
70 department the insurer of each underinsured woman who is tested
71 through the program in order to facilitate recoupment of the
72 costs of services.

73 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.