

By Senator Hill

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1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to prostate cancer; amending s.  
3       381.911, F.S.; revising the purpose of the Prostate  
4       Cancer Awareness Program within the Department of  
5       Health; authorizing the Department of Health and the  
6       University of Florida Prostate Disease Center to  
7       coordinate with other organizations and institutions  
8       to create a systemic focus on increasing community  
9       education and awareness of prostate cancer; requiring  
10      the State Surgeon General, in consultation with the  
11      Comprehensive Cancer Control Program within the  
12      department and the Florida Cancer Control and Research  
13      Advisory Council, to appoint members to the Prostate  
14      Cancer Advisory Council, formerly designated as a  
15      "committee"; providing for terms of office; providing  
16      for the appointment of members to fill vacant  
17      positions; providing for the removal and replacement  
18      of members; providing the duties of the prostate  
19      cancer advisory council; requiring the department to  
20      provide staff and administrative support to the  
21      council; providing for a quorum of the council;  
22      providing the mission, intent, and duties of the  
23      University of Florida Prostate Disease Center  
24      regarding the awareness of prostate cancer, research  
25      efforts, and public access to cancer treatment  
26      options, including an annual prostate cancer symposium  
27      and submission of an annual report to the Governor,  
28      the State Surgeon General, and the Legislature;  
29      requiring the prostate cancer awareness program to

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30 coordinate its efforts with the University of Florida  
31 Prostate Disease Center instead of the Florida Public  
32 Health Institute, Inc.; providing an effective date.  
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34 WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes that prostate cancer is  
35 a major public health problem and that promoting awareness of  
36 this disease is in the public interest of this state, and

37 WHEREAS, according to the Department of Health's Florida  
38 Cancer Plan 2003-2006, prostate cancer was the most commonly  
39 diagnosed cancer in Florida, accounting for one in every four  
40 cancer diagnoses, and

41 WHEREAS, the costs for screening, staging, and treating  
42 prostate cancer patients in both dollars and morbidity continue  
43 to rise, which threatens the foundation of this state's health  
44 system, and

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

48 WHEREAS, there are currently no organized mechanisms in  
49 Florida to mitigate the incidence of prostate cancer, the racial  
50 and ethnic disparities with regard to the disease, and the lack  
51 of community education and awareness, and

52 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that it is a public  
53 necessity to establish the Prostate Cancer Advisory Council and  
54 to make changes to the Prostate Cancer Awareness Program in  
55 order to increase community education and revive public  
56 awareness of prostate cancer, NOW, THEREFORE,

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

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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, public education, awareness of prostate cancer, notification of clinical trials, and health education activities to ensure that men are aware of and appropriately seek medical counseling for prostate cancer as an early detection ~~early-detection~~ health care measure.

(2) For purposes of implementing the program, the Department of Health and the University of Florida Prostate Disease Center may coordinate and work with other organizations and institutions, including the Florida Public Health Institute, Inc., to create a systemic focus on increasing community education and awareness about prostate cancer by ~~may~~:

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

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

(3) The ~~A~~ Prostate Cancer Advisory Council ~~committee~~ is created to advise and assist the Department of Health and the University of Florida Prostate Disease Center ~~Florida Public Health Institute, Inc.,~~ in implementing the program and to

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88 recommend strategies for educating residents of this state  
89 regarding the health benefits of awareness, early detection, and  
90 treatment of prostate cancer.

91 (a) The State Surgeon General, in consultation with the  
92 Comprehensive Cancer Control Program within the Department of  
93 Health and the Florida Cancer Control and Research Advisory  
94 Council, shall appoint geographically and institutionally  
95 diverse council ~~the advisory committee~~ members, who shall  
96 consist of:

97 1. Three persons from prostate cancer survivor groups or  
98 cancer-related advocacy groups.

99 2. Three persons who are scientists or clinicians from  
100 public universities or research organizations.

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

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

108 (c) Each member of the advisory council shall be appointed  
109 to a 4-year term; however, for the purpose of providing  
110 staggered terms, of the initial appointments, four members shall  
111 be appointed to 2-year terms and five members shall be appointed  
112 to 4-year terms. A member of the council may be removed at any  
113 time by the State Surgeon General who shall fill the vacancy on  
114 the council.

115 (d) At the first meeting of the advisory council each year,  
116 the members shall elect a chair and a vice chair. A vacancy in

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117 the office of chair or vice chair shall be filled by vote of the  
118 remaining members. The council shall meet quarterly and at other  
119 times at the call of the chair or as determined by a majority of  
120 council members.

121 (e) The Prostate Cancer Advisory Council shall:

122 1. Present recommendations to the Department of Health on  
123 policy and health priorities concerning prostate cancer  
124 incidence and disparities.

125 2. Verify the accuracy of prostate cancer information  
126 disseminated to the public.

127 3. Plan, develop, and implement activities designed to  
128 heighten awareness and educate residents of this state regarding  
129 the importance of early detection, clinical trials, and  
130 effective treatment options for prostate cancer.

131 4. Develop effective communication channels to various  
132 stakeholders within and across the state.

133 (f) The Department of Health shall provide staff and  
134 administrative support to the council.

135 (g) Five of the members of the council constitute a quorum,  
136 and an affirmative vote of a majority of the members present is  
137 required for final action.

138 (4) (a) The mission and fundamental intent of the University  
139 of Florida Prostate Disease Center with regard to the Prostate  
140 Cancer Awareness Program is to foster the collaboration required  
141 to improve community education and awareness; to enhance  
142 research efforts for patients who have urologic cancers which  
143 will, ultimately, provide residents of this state with rapid  
144 access to new and more effective cancer treatment options; and  
145 to deliver the clinical expertise, academic leadership,

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146 operational capabilities, and business acumen required to reduce  
147 the incidence of prostate cancer and eliminate the racial and  
148 ethnic disparities locally and nationally.

149 (b) The University of Florida Prostate Disease Center  
150 shall:

151 1. Provide community education about prostate cancer by  
152 fostering collaborative relationships between diverse  
153 communities at the direction of the Prostate Cancer Advisory  
154 Council.

155 2. Conduct an annual prostate cancer symposium that brings  
156 physicians, researchers, community leaders, prostate cancer  
157 survivors, and prostate cancer advocates together to highlight  
158 recent advances in prostate cancer research, clinical trials,  
159 and best practices in the prevention of the disease, and to  
160 promote strategies for successful rural and urban outreach,  
161 community education, and increased awareness.

162 3. Submit and present an annual report to the Governor, the  
163 President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of  
164 Representatives, and the State Surgeon General by January 15,  
165 2011, and by January 15 each following year, which contains  
166 recommendations for legislative changes necessary to decrease  
167 the incidence of prostate cancer, decrease the racial and ethnic  
168 disparities, and promote increased community education and  
169 awareness.

170 (5)(4) The program shall coordinate its efforts with those  
171 of the University of Florida Prostate Disease Center ~~Florida~~  
172 ~~Public Health Institute, Inc.~~

173 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010.