

HB 137

2011

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Prostate Cancer Awareness Program;
3 amending s. 381.911, F.S.; revising the structure and
4 objectives of the Prostate Cancer Awareness Program;
5 authorizing the University of Florida Prostate Disease
6 Center, in collaboration with other organizations and
7 institutions, to establish a prostate cancer task force to
8 replace the advisory committee; providing for membership
9 and duties of the task force; requiring an annual report
10 to the Governor, Legislature, and State Surgeon General;
11 providing an effective date.

12
13 WHEREAS, the Legislature recognizes that prostate cancer is
14 a major public health problem and that promoting awareness of
15 this disease is in the public interest of this state, and

16 WHEREAS, according to the Department of Health's Florida
17 Cancer Plan 2003-2006, prostate cancer was the most commonly
18 diagnosed cancer in Florida, accounting for one in every four
19 cancer diagnoses, and

20 WHEREAS, the costs for screening, staging, and treating
21 prostate cancer patients in both dollars and morbidity continue
22 to rise and threaten the foundation of this state's health
23 system, and

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

27 WHEREAS, there are currently no organized, active, or
28 effective strategies to improve community education and

HB 137

2011

29 awareness regarding the rising incidence of and the racial and
 30 ethnic disparities related to prostate cancer, and

31 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that it in the public
 32 interest for state agencies and institutions to work with the
 33 University of Florida Prostate Disease Center to establish the
 34 prostate cancer task force to more effectively serve the needs
 35 of the people of Florida, NOW, THEREFORE,

36

37 Be Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

38

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

41 381.911 Prostate Cancer Awareness Program.—

42 (1) To the extent that funds are specifically made
 43 available for this purpose, the Prostate Cancer Awareness
 44 Program is established within the Department of Health. The
 45 purpose of this program is ~~to implement the recommendations of~~
 46 ~~January 2000 of the Florida Prostate Cancer Task Force to~~
 47 provide for statewide outreach, promote prostate cancer
 48 awareness, communicate the advantages of early detection, report
 49 recent progress in prostate cancer research and the availability
 50 of clinical trials, minimize health disparities through outreach
 51 and education, communicate best practices principles to
 52 physicians involved in the care of prostate cancer patients, and
 53 establish a communication platform for patients and their
 54 advocates and health education activities to ensure that men are
 55 ~~aware of and appropriately seek medical counseling for prostate~~
 56 ~~cancer as an early detection health care measure.~~

HB 137

2011

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

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

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

69 (3) The University of Florida Prostate Disease Center
70 (UFPDC) shall establish the UFPDC Prostate Cancer Task Force and
71 lead the task force in developing and implementing strategies to
72 improve outreach and education and thereby reduce the number of
73 patients who develop prostate cancer. A prostate cancer advisory
74 ~~committee is created to advise and assist the Department of~~
75 ~~Health and the Florida Public Health Institute, Inc., in~~
76 ~~implementing the program.~~

77 (a) The Executive Director of the University of Florida
78 Prostate Disease Center shall appoint, in consultation with the
79 Department of Health's Comprehensive Cancer Control Program, the
80 Florida Cancer Control Program, and the State Surgeon General, a
81 geographically and institutionally diverse task force, which
82 ~~shall appoint the advisory committee members, who shall consist~~
83 of:

84 1. Two ~~Three~~ persons from prostate cancer survivor groups

85 or cancer-related advocacy groups.

86 2. Four ~~Three~~ persons, one of whom is a physician licensed
 87 under chapter 458, one of whom is a physician licensed under
 88 chapter 459, one of whom is a scientist, and one of whom is the
 89 Executive Director of the University of Florida Prostate Disease
 90 Center or a designee ~~who are scientists or clinicians from~~
 91 ~~public universities or research organizations.~~

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

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

99 (c) Each member of the task force shall be appointed to a
 100 4-year term; however, for the purpose of providing staggered
 101 terms, of the initial appointments, four members shall be
 102 appointed to 2-year terms and four members shall be appointed to
 103 4-year terms. The remaining seat shall be filled by the
 104 Executive Director of the University of Florida Prostate Disease
 105 Center or a designee.

106 (d) The task force shall meet annually and at other times
 107 at the call of the Executive Director of the University of
 108 Florida Prostate Disease Center or by a majority vote of the
 109 members of the task force.

110 (e) Five of the members of the task force constitute a
 111 quorum, and an affirmative vote of a majority of the members
 112 present is required for final action.

HB 137

2011

- 113 (f) The task force shall:
- 114 1. Present prostate-cancer-related policy recommendations
115 to the Department of Health and other appropriate governmental
116 entities.
- 117 2. Verify the accuracy of prostate cancer information
118 disseminated to the public.
- 119 3. Develop effective communication channels among all
120 private and public entities in the state involved in prostate
121 cancer education, research, treatment, and patient advocacy.
- 122 4. Plan, develop, and implement activities designed to
123 heighten awareness and educate residents of the state,
124 especially those in underserved areas, regarding the importance
125 of prostate cancer awareness.
- 126 5. Disseminate information about recent progress in
127 prostate cancer research and the availability of clinical
128 trials.
- 129 6. Minimize health disparities through outreach and
130 education.
- 131 7. Communicate best practices principles to physicians
132 involved in the care of patients with prostate cancer.
- 133 8. Establish a communication platform for patients and
134 their advocates.
- 135 9. Work with other institutions and organizations to
136 develop and maintain a prostate cancer registry that is an
137 automated, electronic, and centralized database of persons in
138 the state who are diagnosed with and treated for prostate
139 cancer.
- 140 10. Establish a tissue bank to enable research that could

HB 137

2011

141 result in new therapies and potential cures for persons
142 diagnosed with prostate cancer.

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

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

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

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