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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

ENROLLED  
CS/CS/HB 137

2011 Legislature

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

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

35 WHEREAS, there are currently no organized, active, or  
36 effective strategies to improve community education and  
37 awareness regarding the rising incidence of and the racial and  
38 ethnic disparities related to prostate cancer, and

39 WHEREAS, the Legislature finds that it is in the public  
40 interest for state agencies and institutions to work with the  
41 University of Florida Prostate Disease Center to establish the  
42 prostate cancer advisory council to more effectively serve the  
43 needs of the people of Florida, NOW, THEREFORE,

44  
45 Be Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

46  
47 Section 1. Section 381.911, Florida Statutes, is amended  
48 to read:

49 381.911 Prostate Cancer Awareness Program.—

50 (1) ~~To the extent that funds are specifically made~~  
51 ~~available for this purpose, the Prostate Cancer Awareness~~  
52 ~~Program is established within the Department of Health. The~~  
53 purpose of this program is ~~to implement the recommendations of~~  
54 ~~January 2000 of the Florida Prostate Cancer Task Force to~~  
55 provide for statewide outreach, promote prostate cancer  
56 awareness, communicate the advantages of early detection, report

ENROLLED  
CS/CS/HB 137

2011 Legislature

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

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

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

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

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

ENROLLED  
CS/CS/HB 137

2011 Legislature

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.

ENROLLED  
CS/CS/HB 137

2011 Legislature

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

ENROLLED  
CS/CS/HB 137

2011 Legislature

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.