

1 State of Arkansas
2 82nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1999

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 1355

4
5 By: Representative C. Johnson
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For An Act To Be Entitled

8
9 "AN ACT TO ESTABLISH A PROGRAM TO RAISE AWARENESS
10 CONCERNING PROSTATE CANCER; TO INCREASE THE
11 AVAILABILITY OF DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF PROSTATE
12 CANCER; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. "

Subtitle

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15 "TO ESTABLISH A PROGRAM TO RAISE
16 AWARENESS CONCERNING PROSTATE CANCER
17 AND TO INCREASE THE AVAILABILITY OF
18 DIAGNOSIS AND TREATMENT OF PROSTATE
19 CANCER. "

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22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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24 SECTION 1. (a) The Department of Health shall provide for the early
25 detection, diagnosis, and treatment of prostate cancer, according to the
26 following principles:

27 (1) The department shall provide for prostate cancer education
28 and awareness so as to ensure early detection and conduct surveillance
29 activities across the state;

30 (2) The department shall provide screening of men for prostate
31 cancer as an early detection health care measure;

32 (3) After screening, the department shall provide medical
33 referrals and financial assistance for services necessary for definitive
34 diagnosis, including nonradiological techniques and biopsy; and

35 (4) If a department diagnosis is made, the program shall provide
36 the necessary advocacy and financial assistance to help the person obtain

1 necessary treatment.

2 (b) The Department of Health shall coordinate with other agencies and
3 organizations as funds become available to establish, promote, and maintain a
4 prostate cancer prevention and treatment education program in order to raise
5 public awareness, educate consumers, and educate and train health
6 professionals and service providers.

7 (c) For purposes of administering this act, the State Health
8 Officer shall do all of the following:

9 (1) Identify the appropriate entities to carry out a prostate
10 cancer prevention and treatment education program;

11 (2) Work to improve the capacity of community-based services to
12 prostate cancer patients;

13 (3) Work with governmental offices, community and business
14 leaders, community organizations, health care and human service providers, and
15 national prostate cancer organizations to coordinate efforts and maximize
16 state resources in the areas of prevention, education, and treatment of
17 prostate cancer; and

18 (4) Identify and, as funds become available, replicate or use
19 successful prostate cancer programs and procure related materials and services
20 from organizations with appropriate expertise and knowledge of prostate
21 cancer.

22 (c) The Department of Health shall use, as funds become available, the
23 following strategies for raising public awareness on the causes and nature of
24 prostate cancer, personal risk factors, value of prevention and early
25 detection, and options for diagnosing and treating the disease:

26 (1) An outreach campaign utilizing print, radio, and television
27 public service announcements, advertisements, posters, and other materials;

28 (2) Providing health information and risk factor assessment in
29 regard to prostate cancer at public events;

30 (3) Targeting populations at risk for prostate cancer, with
31 special attention to African-Americans and to rural areas of this state;

32 (4) Providing reliable information about prostate cancer to
33 policy makers;

34 (5) Distributing information through county health departments,
35 schools, area agencies on aging, employer wellness programs, physicians,
36 hospitals and health maintenance organizations, men's groups, nonprofit

1 organizations, community-based organizations, life or disability insurance
 2 companies, fraternal benefit societies, nonprofit health service corporations,
 3 nonprofit hospital service corporations, nonprofit medical service
 4 corporations, prepaid health plans, health maintenance organizations, or long-
 5 term care plans and all similar type organizations; and

6 (6) Any other strategy for raising public awareness about
 7 prostate cancer that is consistent with the provisions of this subchapter.

8 (d) The Department of Health shall use, as funds become available, the
 9 following strategies for educating and training physicians, health
 10 professionals, and community service providers in regard to the most up-to-
 11 date, accurate scientific and medical information on prostate cancer
 12 prevention, diagnosis and treatment, therapeutic decision-making about
 13 prostate cancer, guidelines for detecting and treating prostate cancer in
 14 special populations, and risks and benefits of medications and research
 15 advances:

16 (1) Identify and obtain education materials for the professional
 17 health care provider which translates the latest scientific and medical
 18 information into clinical applications;

19 (2) Raise awareness among professional health care providers as
 20 to the importance of prostate cancer prevention, early detection, treatment,
 21 and rehabilitation; and

22 (3) Provide workshops and seminars for in-depth professional
 23 development in the field of the care and management of the patient with
 24 prostate cancer.

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 26 SECTION 2. All provisions of this act of a general and permanent nature
 27 are amendatory to the Arkansas Code of 1987 Annotated and the Arkansas Code
 28 Revision Commission shall incorporate the same in the Code.

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 30 SECTION 3. If any provision of this act or the application thereof to
 31 any person or circumstance is held invalid, such invalidity shall not affect
 32 other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without
 33 the invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this
 34 act are declared to be severable.

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 36 SECTION 4. All laws and parts of laws in conflict with this act are

1 hereby repeal ed.

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