

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the law as it existed prior to this session of the General Assembly.

1 State of Arkansas
2 85th General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 2005

A Bill

HOUSE BILL 2542

4
5 By: Representative Borhauer
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For An Act To Be Entitled

9 AN ACT TO CREATE A CERVICAL CANCER RESEARCH
10 PROGRAM; TO EDUCATE WOMEN ABOUT THE RISK OF
11 CERVICAL CANCER SCREENING FOR CERVICAL CANCER; TO
12 PREVENT CERVICAL CANCER; TO ENCOURAGE WOMEN TO
13 SEEK TREATMENT FOR CERVICAL CANCER; AND FOR OTHER
14 PURPOSES.

Subtitle

16 THE CERVICAL CANCER EDUCATION AND
17 PREVENTION ACT.
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21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:
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23 SECTION 1. Arkansas Code Title 20, Chapter 15 is amended to add an
24 additional subchapter to read as follows:

25 20-15-1701. Title.

26 This act shall be known and may be cited as the "Cervical Cancer
27 Education and Prevention Act".

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29 20-15-1702. Legislative findings and intent.

30 The General Assembly finds that:

31 (1) Cervical cancer is the second most common cancer in women
32 worldwide after breast cancer;

33 (2) According to United States cervical cancer statistics,
34 cervical cancer is the third most common gynecological cancer among American
35 women with approximately twelve thousand two hundred (12,200) new cases
36 diagnosed annually and with four thousand one hundred (4,100) of those cases



1 resulting in fatalities;

2 (3) Cervical cancer is highly preventable with regular and
3 accurate screenings;

4 (4) Widespread screening programs have helped reduce death rates
5 from cervical cancer, but women are still dying;

6 (5) Cervical cancer cases in the United States are generally
7 attributed to lack of education, lack of access to regular cervical cancer
8 screenings, and lack of screening accuracy;

9 (6) Experience shows that increasing cervical cancer awareness
10 among women, especially medically underserved women, significantly reduces
11 the probability of mortality;

12 (7) New screening technologies, including testing approved by
13 the United States Food and Drug Administration for the human papilloma virus,
14 which is the cause of virtually all cervical cancers, offer new opportunities
15 to finally eliminate this potentially deadly disease through early
16 identification of women at increased risk;

17 (8) Leading medical organizations, including the American
18 College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, American Cancer Society, and
19 Association of Reproductive Health Professionals have recently updated their
20 screening guidelines to include testing approved by the United States Food
21 and Drug Administration for the human papilloma virus; and

22 (9) Women should receive proper cervical cancer information so
23 that they can be empowered to make informed health care decisions and to
24 access to routine screening, including the most accurate methods available.

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26 20-15-1703. Cervical Cancer Research Program – Creation.

27 There is hereby established the Cervical Cancer Research Program in the
28 University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

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