

109TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 228

To amend the Public Health Service Act to establish an Office of Men's Health.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

FEBRUARY 1, 2005

Mr. CRAPO introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To amend the Public Health Service Act to establish an Office of Men's Health.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the "Men's Health Act of
5 2005".

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds as follows:

8 (1) A silent health crisis is affecting the health
9 and well-being of America's men.

1 (2) While this health crisis is of particular con-
2 cern to men, it is also a concern for women regard-
3 ing their fathers, husbands, sons, and brothers.

4 (3) Men's health is a concern for employers who
5 pay the costs of medical care, and lose productive
6 employees.

7 (4) Men's health is a concern to Federal and
8 State governments which absorb the enormous costs
9 of premature death and disability, including the
10 costs of caring for dependents left behind.

11 (5) The life expectancy gap between men and
12 women has increased from one year in 1920 to al-
13 most six years in 2002.

14 (6) Prostate cancer is the most frequently diag-
15 nosed cancer in the United States among men, ac-
16 counting for 33 percent of all cancer cases.

17 (7) An estimated 230,000 men will be newly di-
18 agnosed with prostate cancer this year alone, and
19 approximately 30,000 will die.

20 (8) Prostate cancer rates increase sharply with
21 age, and more than 75 percent of such cases are di-
22 agnosed in men age 65 and older.

23 (9) The incidence of prostate cancer and the re-
24 sulting mortality rate in African American men is
25 twice that in white men.

1 (10) Over 8,000 men, ages 15 to 40, will be di-
2 agnosed this year with testicular cancer, and 390 of
3 these men will die of this disease in 2005. A com-
4 mon reason for delay in treatment of this disease is
5 a delay in seeking medical attention after discov-
6 ering a testicular mass.

7 (11) Studies show that women are 100 percent
8 more likely than men to visit a doctor, have regular
9 physician check-ups, and obtain preventive screening
10 tests for serious diseases.

11 (12) Appropriate use of tests such as prostate
12 specific antigen (PSA) exams and blood pressure,
13 blood sugar, and cholesterol screens, in conjunction
14 with clinical exams and self-testing, can result in the
15 early detection of many problems and in increased
16 survival rates.

17 (13) Educating men, their families, and health
18 care providers about the importance of early detec-
19 tion of male health problems can result in reducing
20 rates of mortality for male-specific diseases, as well
21 as improve the health of America's men and its over-
22 all economic well-being.

23 (14) Recent scientific studies have shown that
24 regular medical exams, preventive screenings, reg-

1 ular exercise, and healthy eating habits can help
2 save lives.

3 (15) Establishing an Office of Men’s Health is
4 needed to investigate these findings and take such
5 further actions as may be needed to promote men’s
6 health.

7 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE OF MEN’S HEALTH.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title XVII of the Public Health
9 Service Act (42 U.S.C. 300u et seq.) is amended by adding
10 at the end the following section:

11 **“SEC. 1711. OFFICE OF MEN’S HEALTH.**

12 “The Secretary shall establish within the Department
13 of Health and Human Services an office to be known as
14 the Office of Men’s Health, which shall be headed by a
15 director appointed by the Secretary. The Secretary, acting
16 through the Director of the Office, shall coordinate and
17 promote the status of men’s health in the United States.”.

18 (b) REPORT.—Not later than two years after the date
19 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and
20 Human Services, acting through the Director of the Office
21 of Men’s Health, shall submit to the Congress a report
22 describing the activities of such Office, including findings
23 that the Director has made regarding men’s health.

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