

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1440

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

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 9, 2007

Mr. FOSSELLA (for himself and Mr. HILL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

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 2007”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds as follows:

8 (1) Risks to the health and well-being of Amer-
9 ica’s men are on the rise due to a lack of education,

1 awareness, and pursuit of preventive screening and
2 care.

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

6 (3) Men's health is important to employers who
7 pay the costs of medical care and lose productive
8 employees.

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

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

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

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

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

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

4 (10) It is estimated that in 2007, 115,000 men
5 will be diagnosed with lung cancer, and another
6 90,000 of America's men will die from it.

7 (11) Over 8,000 men, ages 15 to 40, will be di-
8 agnosed this year with testicular cancer, and 390 of
9 these men will die of this disease in 2007. A com-
10 mon reason for delay in treatment of this disease is
11 a delay in seeking medical attention after discov-
12 ering a testicular mass.

13 (12) According to the Census Bureau, by the
14 time men and women reach age 65, the ratio of men
15 to women reduces to 85 to 100. The growing dis-
16 parity in this statistic suggests that, among other
17 factors, the declining health of men increases the
18 risk of women entering retirement age as widows.

19 (13) Studies show that women are 100 percent
20 more likely than men to visit a doctor, have regular
21 physician check-ups, and obtain preventive screening
22 tests for serious diseases.

23 (14) Appropriate use of tests such as prostate
24 specific antigen (PSA) exams and blood pressure,
25 blood sugar, and cholesterol screens, in conjunction

1 with clinical exams and self-testing, can result in the
2 early detection of many problems and in increased
3 survival rates.

4 (15) Educating men, their families, and health
5 care providers about the importance of early detec-
6 tion of male health problems can reduce mortality
7 rates for male-specific disease and improve the over-
8 all health and well-being of America's men.

9 (16) Recent scientific studies show that regular
10 medical exams, preventive screenings, regular exer-
11 cise, and healthy eating habits can help save lives.

12 (17) Establishing an Office of Men's Health is
13 needed to investigate these findings and take such
14 further actions as may be needed to promote men's
15 health.

16 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICE OF MEN'S HEALTH.**

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

20 “OFFICE OF MEN'S HEALTH

21 “SEC. 1711. (a) The Secretary shall establish within
22 the Department of Health and Human Services an office
23 to be known as the Office of Men's Health (in this section
24 referred to as the ‘Office’), which shall be headed by a
25 director appointed by the Secretary.

1 “(b) The Secretary, acting through the Director of
2 the Office, shall—

3 “(1) conduct or support programs and activities
4 to improve the state of men’s health in the United
5 States; and

6 “(2) provide for consultation among the offices
7 and agencies of the Department of Health and
8 Human Services for the purpose of coordinating pro-
9 grams and activities relating to men’s health.”.

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

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