

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 994

To amend the Public Health Service Act to increase awareness of the risks of breast cancer in young women and provide support for young women diagnosed with breast cancer.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 7, 2009

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself, Ms. SNOWE, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. SANDERS, Mr. BAYH, Mr. NELSON of Florida, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mrs. HAGAN, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Ms. STABENOW, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mrs. MURRAY, Ms. MIKULSKI, and Mr. VITTER) 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 increase awareness of the risks of breast cancer in young women and provide support for young women diagnosed with breast cancer.

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 “Breast Cancer Edu-
5 cation and Awareness Requires Learning Young Act of
6 2009” or “EARLY Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. YOUNG WOMEN'S BREAST CANCER AWARENESS**
 2 **AND SUPPORT.**

3 Title III of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C.
 4 241 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the fol-
 5 lowing:

6 **“PART S—PROGRAMS RELATING TO BREAST**
 7 **CANCER**

8 **“SEC. 399HH. YOUNG WOMEN'S BREAST CANCER AWARE-**
 9 **NESS AND SUPPORT.**

10 “(a) PUBLIC EDUCATION CAMPAIGN.—

11 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting
 12 through the Director of the Centers for Disease
 13 Control and Prevention, shall conduct a national evi-
 14 dence-based education campaign—

15 “(A) to increase public awareness regard-
 16 ing the threats posed by breast cancer to young
 17 women of all racial, ethnic, and cultural back-
 18 grounds, including the particular risks faced by
 19 certain racial, ethnic, and cultural groups; and

20 “(B) focusing on awareness of risk factors
 21 of breast cancer among young women and
 22 achieving early detection of breast cancer
 23 among young women through community-cen-
 24 tered informational forums, public service ad-
 25 vertisements, and media campaigns.

1 “(2) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—In conducting
2 the education campaign under paragraph (1), the
3 Secretary may—

4 “(A) make public announcements targeted
5 towards young women with the goal of edu-
6 cating them that breast cancer occurs in young
7 women and the steps they can take to recognize
8 their individual risk factors and ensure early
9 detection of breast cancer, ensuring that such
10 messaging is age-appropriate;

11 “(B) provide education, through written
12 materials, identifying evidence-based methods to
13 lower the risk of breast cancer in young women
14 through changes in lifestyle including diet, exer-
15 cise, and environmental factors;

16 “(C) conduct other activities determined by
17 the Secretary to promote educational aware-
18 ness, early detection, and risk-reducing prac-
19 tices among young women and increase the
20 number of young women with breast cancer
21 warning signs who seek immediate care;

22 “(D) award grants, contracts, or coopera-
23 tive agreements to appropriate State agencies
24 to carry out secondary school and university

1 education campaigns, focusing on breast cancer
2 awareness among young women;

3 “(E) develop and distribute to young
4 women, physicians, and other appropriate
5 health care professionals, educational mate-
6 rials—

7 “(i) designed for young women;

8 “(ii) relating to particular risk factors
9 for breast cancer in women under the age
10 of 45;

11 “(iii) identifying methods for increas-
12 ing early detection, including clinical
13 breast exams;

14 “(iv) encouraging genetic counseling
15 and testing for appropriate individuals, in
16 order to facilitate early diagnosis or pre-
17 vention;

18 “(v) supporting imaging-based screen-
19 ing for individuals with a genetic mutation
20 or who have a high risk of early onset
21 breast cancer based on family history or
22 other pertinent factors;

23 “(vi) consistent with the most recent
24 version of the National Comprehensive
25 Cancer Network (NCCN) guidelines, iden-

tifying methods, such as breast self exams
and knowing the signs of breast malignancies, for increasing breast self awareness;

“(vii) identifying evidence-based methods to lower the risk of breast cancer through changes in lifestyle, including diet, exercise, and environmental factors;

“(viii) identifying available treatment options for breast cancer; and

“(ix) for young women who have been diagnosed with breast cancer, health information from credible sources that provides information on—

“(I) fertility preservation;

“(II) support, including social, emotional, psychosocial, financial, lifestyle, and caregiver support;

“(III) familial risk factors; and

“(IV) risk reduction strategies to reduce recurrence or metastasis; and

“(F) carry out a health education program targeted to specific higher-risk populations of young women based on race, ethnicity, level of acculturation, and family history, including the

1 African-American and Ashkenazi Jewish popu-
2 lations under 45 years of age.

3 “(3) MEDIA CAMPAIGN.—In conducting the
4 education campaign under paragraph (1), the Sec-
5 retary shall award grants to entities to establish na-
6 tional multimedia campaigns oriented to young
7 women that—

8 “(A) will encourage young women to be
9 aware of—

10 “(i) their personal risk factors, includ-
11 ing by talking to their medical practitioner
12 about those risks;

13 “(ii) strategies for increasing early de-
14 tection, including clinical breast exams;

15 “(iii) genetic counseling and testing
16 for appropriate individuals, in order to fa-
17 cilitate early diagnosis or prevention;

18 “(iv) imaging-based screening for in-
19 dividuals with a genetic mutation or who
20 have a high risk of early onset breast can-
21 cer based on family history or other perti-
22 nent factors;

23 “(v) consistent with the most recent
24 version of the National Comprehensive
25 Cancer Network (NCCN) guidelines, iden-

1 tifying methods, such as breast self exams
2 and knowing the signs of breast malign-
3 nancies, for increasing breast self aware-
4 ness;

5 “(vi) evidence-based preventative life-
6 style changes, including eating healthily
7 and maintaining a healthy weight; and

8 “(vii) other breast cancer early detec-
9 tion and risk reduction strategies deter-
10 mined appropriate by the Secretary;

11 “(B) will encourage young women of spe-
12 cific higher-risk populations based on race, eth-
13 nicity, level of acculturation, and family history,
14 including the African-American and Ashkenazi
15 Jewish populations under 45 years of age to
16 talk to their medical practitioners about those
17 risks and methods for appropriate screening
18 and surveillance, including available genetic
19 testing and counseling; and

20 “(C) may include advertising through tele-
21 vision, radio, print media, billboards, posters,
22 all forms of existing and emerging social net-
23 working media, other Internet media, and any
24 other media determined appropriate by the Sec-
25 retary.

1 “(4) ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—

2 “(A) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 60
3 days after the date of the enactment of this sec-
4 tion, the Secretary, acting through the Director
5 of the Centers for Disease Control and Preven-
6 tion, shall establish an advisory committee to
7 assist in creating and conducting the education
8 campaign under paragraph (1).

9 “(B) MEMBERSHIP.—The Secretary, act-
10 ing through the Director of the Centers for Dis-
11 ease Control and Prevention, shall appoint to
12 the advisory committee under subparagraph (A)
13 such members as deemed necessary to properly
14 advise the Secretary, and shall include organi-
15 zations and individuals with expertise in breast
16 cancer prevention, diagnosis, genetic screening
17 and counseling, treatment, and rehabilitation in
18 young women.

19 “(b) HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION
20 CAMPAIGN.—

21 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary, acting
22 through the Director of the Centers for Disease
23 Control and Prevention, and in consultation with the
24 Administrator of the Health Resources and Services
25 Administration, shall conduct an education cam-

1 paign to increase awareness among physicians and
 2 other health care professionals—

3 “(A) relating to the risk factors, risk re-
 4 duction strategies, early diagnosis and treat-
 5 ment of breast cancer in young women;

6 “(B) on when to refer patients to a health
 7 care provider with genetics expertise; and

8 “(C) on how to provide counseling that ad-
 9 dresses long-term survivorship and health con-
 10 cerns of young women diagnosed with breast
 11 cancer.

12 “(2) MATERIALS.—The education campaign
 13 under paragraph (1) may include the distribution of
 14 print, video, and Web-based materials on assisting
 15 physicians and other health care professionals in—

16 “(A) identifying generally the risk factors
 17 and early warning signs and symptoms of
 18 breast cancer specific to women under the age
 19 of 45 and the specific risk factors that would
 20 require increased monitoring;

21 “(B) counseling patients on the benefits of
 22 evidence-based healthy lifestyles which reduce
 23 the risks of breast cancer;

24 “(C) counseling patients on the importance
 25 of consistent breast self exams to facilitate

1 breast self awareness and teaching patients how
 2 to perform such exams;

3 “(D) understanding the importance of
 4 early diagnosis, including teaching young
 5 women the symptoms of breast cancer and early
 6 detection practices, including clinical breast
 7 exams, genetic counseling and testing where ap-
 8 propriate, and other strategies determined to be
 9 appropriate by the Secretary; and

10 “(E) the unique long-term effects faced by
 11 young women with breast cancer that will need
 12 to be addressed over their lifetimes, including—

13 “(i) re-entry into the workforce or
 14 school;

15 “(ii) infertility as a result of treat-
 16 ment;

17 “(iii) neuro-cognitive effects;

18 “(iv) important effects of cardiac, vas-
 19 cular, muscle, and skeletal complications;
 20 and

21 “(v) secondary malignancies.

22 “(c) PREVENTION RESEARCH ACTIVITIES.—The Sec-
 23 retary, acting through the Director of the Centers for Dis-
 24 ease Control and Prevention, shall conduct prevention re-

1 search on breast cancer in younger women, including the
2 following:

3 “(1) Behavioral and other research on the im-
4 pact of breast cancer diagnosis on young women.

5 “(2) Formative research to assist with the de-
6 velopment of educational messages and information
7 for the public, targeted populations, and their fami-
8 lies about breast cancer.

9 “(3) Surveys of physician and public knowledge,
10 attitudes, and practices about breast cancer preven-
11 tion and control in high-risk populations.

12 “(d) SUPPORT FOR YOUNG WOMEN DIAGNOSED
13 WITH BREAST CANCER.—

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall award
15 grants to organizations and institutions to provide
16 health information from credible sources and sub-
17 stantive assistance directed to young women diag-
18 nosed with breast cancer on—

19 “(A) education and counseling regarding
20 fertility preservation;

21 “(B) support, including social, emotional,
22 psychosocial, financial, lifestyle, and caregiver
23 support;

24 “(C) familial risk factors; and

1 “(D) risk reduction strategies to reduce re-
2 currence or metastasis.

3 “(2) PRIORITY.—In making grants under para-
4 graph (1), the Secretary shall give priority to appli-
5 cants that deal specifically with young women and
6 breast cancer.

7 “(e) NO DUPLICATION OF EFFORT.—In conducting
8 an education campaign or other program under sub-
9 sections (a), (b), (c), or (d), the Secretary shall avoid du-
10 plicating other existing Federal breast cancer education
11 efforts.

12 “(f) MEASUREMENT; REPORTING.—The Secretary,
13 acting through the Director of the Centers for Disease
14 Control and Prevention, shall—

15 “(1) measure young women’s awareness regard-
16 ing breast cancer, including knowledge of specific
17 risk factors and early warning signs, and young
18 women’s proactive efforts at early detection, includ-
19 ing seeking out information on risk-reducing lifestyle
20 choices, the number or percentage of young women
21 receiving regular clinical breast exams, the number
22 or percentage of young women who perform breast
23 self exams, and the frequency of such exams, before
24 the implementation of this section;

1 “(2) establish quantitative benchmarks to meas-
2 ure the impact of activities under this section;

3 “(3) not less than every 3 years, measure the
4 impact of such activities; and

5 “(4) submit reports to the Congress on the re-
6 sults of such measurements.

7 “(g) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘young
8 women’ means women 15 to 44 years of age.

9 “(h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—To
10 carry out this section, there are authorized to be appro-
11 priated \$9,000,000 for each of the fiscal years 2010
12 through 2014.”.

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