

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 216

To establish the National Prostate Cancer Council for improved screening, early detection, assessment, and monitoring of prostate cancer, and to direct the development and implementation of a national strategic plan to expedite advancement of diagnostic tools and the transfer of such tools to patients.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 21, 2015

Mr. SESSIONS (for himself and Mrs. BOXER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To establish the National Prostate Cancer Council for improved screening, early detection, assessment, and monitoring of prostate cancer, and to direct the development and implementation of a national strategic plan to expedite advancement of diagnostic tools and the transfer of such tools to patients.

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 “National Prostate Can-
5 cer Plan Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL PROSTATE CANCER COUNCIL.**

2 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the
3 Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Services (re-
4 ferred to in this section as the “Secretary”) the National
5 Prostate Cancer Council on Screening, Early Detection,
6 Assessment, and Monitoring of Prostate Cancer (referred
7 to in this Act as the “Council”).

8 (b) PURPOSE OF THE COUNCIL.—The Council
9 shall—

10 (1) develop and implement a national strategic
11 plan for the accelerated creation, advancement, and
12 testing of diagnostic tools to improve screening,
13 early detection, assessment, and monitoring of pros-
14 tate cancer, including—

15 (A) early detection of aggressive prostate
16 cancer to save lives;

17 (B) monitoring of tumor response to treat-
18 ment, including recurrence and progression; and

19 (C) accurate assessment and surveillance
20 of indolent disease to reduce unnecessary biop-
21 sies and treatment;

22 (2) provide information and coordination of
23 prostate cancer research and services across all Fed-
24 eral agencies;

1 (3) review diagnostic tools and their overall ef-
2 fectiveness at screening, detecting, assessing, and
3 monitoring of prostate cancer;

4 (4) evaluate all programs in prostate cancer
5 that are in existence on the date of enactment of
6 this Act, including Federal budget requests and ap-
7 provals and public-private partnerships;

8 (5) submit an annual report to the Secretary
9 and Congress on the creation and implementation of
10 the national strategic plan under paragraph (1); and

11 (6) ensure the inclusion of men at high-risk for
12 prostate cancer, including men from ethnic and ra-
13 cial populations and men who are least likely to re-
14 ceive care, in clinical, research, and service efforts,
15 with the purpose of decreasing health disparities.

16 (c) MEMBERSHIP.—

17 (1) FEDERAL MEMBERS.—The Council shall be
18 led by the Secretary or designee and comprised of
19 the following experts:

20 (A) Two representatives of the National
21 Institutes of Health, including 1 representative
22 of the National Institute of Biomedical Imaging
23 and Bioengineering and 1 representative of the
24 National Cancer Institute.

1 (B) A representative of the Centers for
2 Disease Control and Prevention.

3 (C) A representative of the Centers for
4 Medicare and Medicaid Services.

5 (D) A designee of the Director of the De-
6 partment of Defense Congressionally Directed
7 Medical Research Program.

8 (E) A designee of the Director of the Of-
9 fice of Minority Health.

10 (F) A representative of the Food and Drug
11 Administration.

12 (G) A representative of the Agency for
13 Healthcare Research and Quality.

14 (2) NON-FEDERAL MEMBERS.—In addition to
15 the members described in paragraph (1), the Council
16 shall include 14 expert members from outside the
17 Federal Government, which shall include—

18 (A) 6 prostate cancer patient advocates,
19 including—

20 (i) 2 patient-survivors;

21 (ii) 2 caregivers of prostate cancer pa-
22 tients; and

23 (iii) 2 representatives from national
24 prostate cancer disease organizations that
25 fund research or have demonstrated experi-

1 ence in providing assistance to patients,
2 families, and medical professionals, includ-
3 ing information on health care options,
4 education, and referral; and

5 (B) 8 health care stakeholders with specific
6 expertise in prostate cancer research in the crit-
7 ical areas of clinical expertise, including medical
8 oncology, radiology, radiation oncology, urology,
9 and pathology.

10 (d) MEETINGS.—The Council shall meet quarterly
11 and meetings shall be open to the public.

12 (e) ADVICE.—The Council shall advise the Secretary,
13 or the Secretary’s designee.

14 (f) ANNUAL REPORT.—The Council shall submit an-
15 nual reports, beginning not later than 1 year after the
16 date of enactment of this Act, to the Secretary or the Sec-
17 retary’s designee and to Congress. The annual report shall
18 include—

19 (1) in the first year—

20 (A) an evaluation of all federally funded ef-
21 forts in prostate cancer research and gaps relat-
22 ing to the development and validation of diag-
23 nostic tools for prostate cancer; and

24 (B) recommendations for priority actions
25 to expand, eliminate, coordinate, or condense

1 programs based on the performance, mission,
2 and purpose of the programs; and

3 (2) annually thereafter for 5 years—

4 (A) an outline for the development and im-
5 plementation of a national research plan for
6 creation and validation of accurate diagnostic
7 tools to improve prostate cancer care in accord-
8 ance with subsection (a);

9 (B) roles for the National Cancer Institute,
10 National Institute on Minority Health and
11 Health Disparities, and the Office on Minority
12 Health of the Department of Health and
13 Human Services;

14 (C) an analysis of the disparities in the in-
15 cidence and mortality rates of prostate cancer
16 in men at high risk of the disease, including in-
17 dividuals with family history, increasing age, or
18 African-American heritage; and

19 (D) a review of the progress towards the
20 realization of the proposed strategic plan.

21 (g) TERMINATION.—The Council shall terminate on
22 December 31, 2020.

23 (h) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
24 are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section

- 1 \$2,000,000 for the period of fiscal years 2016 through
- 2 2020.

