

Committee on Health Regulation

CS/CS/HB 137 — Prostate Cancer Awareness Program

by Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee; Health and Human Services Access Subcommittee; and Rep. Renuart (CS/SB 414 by Health Regulation Committee and Senator Oelrich)

The bill expands the purpose of the Prostate Cancer Awareness Program and transfers all duties and responsibilities for implementing the Prostate Cancer Awareness Program from the Department of Health and the Florida Public Health Institute, Inc., to the University of Florida, Prostate Disease Center (UFPDC) to:

- Promote prostate cancer awareness;
- Communicate the advantages of early detection;
- Report recent progress in prostate cancer research and the availability of clinical trials;
- Minimize health disparities through outreach and education;
- Communicate best practices principles to physicians involved in the care of prostate cancer patients; and
- Establish a communication platform for patients and their advocates.

The bill changes the name of the Prostate Cancer Advisory Committee to the UFPDC Prostate Cancer Advisory Council (Council) and substantially expands the duties of the Council. The UFPDC is directed to lead the Council in developing and implementing strategies to improve outreach and education to reduce the number of patients who develop prostate cancer. The bill amends the membership, appointment terms, duties, and deletes per diem and travel reimbursement provisions for the Council.

The bill provides that the UFPDC and the Council are to be funded within existing resources of the university.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2011.

Vote: Senate 38-0; House 116-0