

107TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 632

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

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 14, 2001

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (for himself, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. BOEHLERT, Mr. BILIRAKIS, Mr. HILLIARD, Mr. ROGERS of Michigan, Mr. SCHAFFER, Mr. GILCHREST, Mr. MORAN of Virginia, Mr. FRANK, Mr. McNULTY, Ms. LEE, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. CAPUANO, Mr. McINTYRE, Mr. SAXTON, Mr. PASTOR, Mrs. CHRISTENSEN, Mr. SESSIONS, Ms. BALDWIN, Mr. STENHOLM, Mr. BURTON of Indiana, Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island, Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, Mr. BONIOR, Mr. CUMMINGS, Mr. CRAMER, Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania, Mr. PRICE of North Carolina, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. KING, Mr. ISSA, Mr. PICKERING, Mr. WEINER, Mr. GILMAN, Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma, Mr. DEAL of Georgia, Mr. HUNTER, Mr. SPENCE, Mr. McKEON, Mr. WAMP, Mrs. WILSON, Mr. TOWNS, Ms. CARSON of Indiana, Mr. ISTOOK, Mr. RUSH, Mr. HORN, Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN, Mr. SKELTON, Mr. LEWIS of California, Mr. PASCRELL, Mr. HASTINGS of Florida, and Mr. ANDREWS) 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Men’s Health Act of
3 2001”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 The Congress finds as follows:

6 (1) A silent health crisis is affecting the health
7 and well-being of America’s men.

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

11 (3) Men’s health is a concern for employers who
12 pay the costs of medical care, and lose productive
13 employees.

14 (4) Men’s health is a concern to Federal and
15 State governments which absorb the enormous costs
16 of premature death and disability, including the
17 costs of caring for dependents left behind.

18 (5) The life expectancy gap between men and
19 women has increased from one year in 1920 to al-
20 most six years in 1998.

21 (6) Prostate cancer is the most frequently diag-
22 nosed cancer in the United States among men, ac-
23 counting for 36 percent of all cancer cases.

24 (7) An estimated 180,000 men will be newly di-
25 agnosed with prostate cancer this year alone, and
26 37,000 will die.

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

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

7 (10) An estimated 7,200 men, ages 15 to 40,
8 will be diagnosed this year with testicular cancer,
9 and 400 of these men will die of this disease in
10 2001. A common reason for delay in treatment of
11 this disease is a delay in seeking medical attention
12 after discovering a testicular mass.

13 (11) Studies show that men are at least 25 per-
14 cent less likely than women to visit a doctor, and are
15 significantly less likely to have regular physician
16 check-ups and obtain preventive screening tests for
17 serious diseases.

18 (12) Appropriate use of tests such as prostate
19 specific antigen (PSA) exams and blood pressure,
20 blood sugar, and cholesterol screens, in conjunction
21 with clinical exams and self-testing, can result in the
22 early detection of many problems and in increased
23 survival rates.

24 (13) Educating men, their families, and health
25 care providers about the importance of early detec-

1 tion of male health problems can result in reducing
2 rates of mortality for male-specific diseases, as well
3 as improve the health of America’s men and its over-
4 all economic well-being.

5 (14) Recent scientific studies have shown that
6 regular medical exams, preventive screenings, reg-
7 ular exercise, and healthy eating habits can help
8 save lives.

9 (15) Establishing an Office of Men’s Health is
10 needed to investigate these findings and take such
11 further actions as may be needed to promote men’s
12 health.

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

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

17 “OFFICE OF MEN’S HEALTH

18 “SEC. 1711. The Secretary shall establish within the
19 Department of Health and Human Services an office to
20 be known as the Office of Men’s Health, which shall be
21 headed by a director appointed by the Secretary. The Sec-
22 retary, acting through the Director of the Office, shall co-
23 ordinate and promote the status of men’s health in the
24 United States.”.

25 (b) REPORT.—Not later than two years after the date
26 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Health and

1 Human Services, acting through the Director of the Office
2 of Men's Health, shall submit to the Congress a report
3 describing the activities of such Office, including findings
4 that the Director has made regarding men's health.

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