



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

Raised Bill No. 1191

LCO No. 3608



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:
(PH)

***AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PANCREATIC CANCER SCREENING AND
TREATMENT REFERRAL PROGRAM.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General
Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) As used in this section:

2 (1) "Pancreatic cancer screening and referral services" means
3 necessary pancreatic cancer screening services and referral services for
4 a procedure intended to treat cancer of the human pancreas, including,
5 but not limited to, surgery, radiation therapy, chemotherapy and related
6 medical follow-up services.

7 (2) "Unserved or underserved populations" means patients who are:
8 (A) At or below two hundred fifty per cent of the federal poverty level
9 for individuals; (B) without health coverage for pancreatic cancer
10 screening services; and (C) of an age at which pancreatic cancer
11 screening services are deemed appropriate by medical professionals.

12 (b) Not later than January 1, 2026, the Commissioner of Public Health
13 shall establish, within available appropriations, a pancreatic cancer
14 screening and treatment referral program within the Department of

15 Public Health, to (1) promote screening, detection and treatment of
16 pancreatic cancer among unserved or underserved populations, while
17 giving priority consideration to patients in minority communities, (2)
18 educate the public regarding pancreatic cancer and the benefits of early
19 detection, and (3) provide counseling and referral services for treatment.

20 (c) The program shall include, but need not be limited to:

21 (1) The establishment of a public education and outreach initiative to
22 publicize (A) pancreatic cancer screening services and the extent of
23 health coverage that may be available for such services; (B) the benefits
24 of early detection of pancreatic cancer and the recommended frequency
25 of screening services, including clinical examinations; and (C) the
26 medical assistance program and any other public or private program
27 that patients may use to access such services;

28 (2) The provision of pancreatic screening and treatment referral
29 services by providers of such services who register with the Department
30 of Public Health;

31 (3) The development of professional education programs, including,
32 but not limited to, education concerning the benefits of early detection
33 of pancreatic cancer and the recommended frequency of such pancreatic
34 cancer screenings;

35 (4) The establishment of a system to track and follow up on all
36 patients participating in the program who were screened for pancreatic
37 cancer, which system shall include, but need not be limited to, follow-
38 up of abnormal screening tests and referral to treatment services when
39 needed and tracking such patients to be screened at recommended
40 screening intervals; and

41 (5) A method of determining whether each participating provider of
42 pancreatic cancer screening services is in compliance with federal and
43 state quality assurance requirements.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
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Statement of Purpose:

To establish a pancreatic cancer screening and treatment referral program.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]