
By: **Delegates Pitkin and Malone**

Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2001

Assigned to: Environmental Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Breast Cancer Program - Coverage of Reconstructive Services**

3 FOR the purpose of requiring that treatment provided to certain individuals under a
4 certain program include certain services; defining a certain term; and generally
5 relating to the breast cancer program administered by the Department of
6 Health and Mental Hygiene.

7 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
8 Article - Health - General
9 Section 20-116
10 Annotated Code of Maryland
11 (2000 Replacement Volume)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
13 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article - Health - General**

15 20-116.

16 (a) (1) In this section the following words have the meanings indicated.

17 (2) "Biennial" means once every other year.

18 (3) "Clinical breast examination" means a breast examination performed
19 by a health care professional for the purpose of detecting breast cancer.

20 (4) "Eligible individual" means an individual who is eligible to receive
21 benefits under the Program in accordance with subsection (d) of this section.

22 (5) "Mammogram" means an X-ray examination of the breast using
23 dedicated equipment, including X-ray tube, filter, compression device, screens, films,
24 and cassettes, specifically for mammography that delivers an average radiation
25 exposure of less than one rad mid-breast with two views for each breast.

1 (6) "MASTECTOMY" MEANS THE SURGICAL REMOVAL OF ALL OR PART OF
2 A BREAST AS A RESULT OF BREAST CANCER.

3 [(6)] (7) "Program" means the Breast Cancer Program.

4 (b) (1) The Department shall establish a Breast Cancer Program.

5 (2) The purpose of the Program is to:

6 (i) Provide at least biennial screening mammograms and clinical
7 breast examinations to low-income, underinsured and low-income, uninsured women
8 aged 40 years to 49 years;

9 (ii) Provide annual screening mammograms and clinical breast
10 examinations to low-income, underinsured and low-income, uninsured women aged
11 50 years and older; and

12 (iii) Provide diagnosis and treatment for individuals who are
13 identified by this Program as being in need.

14 (C) TREATMENT PROVIDED TO A PROGRAM PARTICIPANT WHO HAS
15 UNDERGONE A MASTECTOMY SHALL INCLUDE:

16 (1) RECONSTRUCTION OF THE BREAST ON WHICH THE MASTECTOMY
17 HAS BEEN PERFORMED;

18 (2) SURGERY AND RECONSTRUCTION OF THE OTHER BREAST TO
19 PRODUCE A SYMMETRICAL APPEARANCE;

20 (3) PROSTHESES; AND

21 (4) ANY PHYSICAL COMPLICATIONS RELATED TO THE MASTECTOMY.

22 [(c)] (D) The Department shall administer the Program through the local
23 health departments using a grant program under which a local health department
24 makes arrangements with health care facilities to provide screening mammograms
25 and clinical breast examinations to eligible individuals.

26 [(d)] (E) An individual is eligible for the Program if the individual:

27 (1) Has a family income that does not exceed 250% of the federal poverty
28 level; and

29 (2) Does not have access to health insurance coverage that covers
30 screening mammograms and clinical breast examinations for women aged 40 years
31 and older.

32 [(e)] (F) For each fiscal year, the Governor shall include an appropriation of
33 general funds to the Program in an amount not less than the amount appropriated for
34 breast cancer screening, diagnosis, and treatment in the State budget for fiscal year
35 1999, subject to the availability of State funds.

1 [(f)] (G) The Department shall:

2 (1) Adopt regulations necessary to implement the Program; and

3 (2) Work with all interested parties to assure that breast cancer
4 screening services are available to women at least 40 years old.

5 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
6 July 1, 2001.