

HB 667 -- PROSTATE CANCER PILOT PROGRAMS

SPONSOR: Carter

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Urban Issues by a vote of 6 to 0.

Subject to secured funding from a non-profit entity, this bill establishes two prostate cancer pilot programs within the Department of Health and Senior Services to fund prostate cancer screening and treatment services and to provide education to men residing in the state. One program must be in St. Louis City and one in Pemiscot, New Madrid, or Dunklin county. The department can contract with the Missouri Foundation for Health to implement the pilot programs. In its main provisions, the bill:

(1) Specifies that the programs must be open to uninsured men or men who have a gross income of up to 150% of the federal poverty level and who are at least 50 years of age and to men between 35 and 49 years of age who are at high risk for prostate cancer;

(2) Requires the programs to provide prostate cancer screening, referral and treatment services, and outreach and education activities;

(3) Requires the department to distribute grants to local health departments and federally qualified health centers for the administration of the programs; and

(4) Requires the department to report to the Governor and the General Assembly three years after the initial grants were first administered regarding the number of individuals screened and treated under the programs, including racial and ethnic data, and any cost savings as a result of the early detection of prostate cancer.

The provisions of the bill will expire six years from the effective date.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2012, FY 2013, and FY 2014.

PROponents: Supporters say that the bill provides outreach activities and treatment services for uninsured men in geographic areas that most need the services. No state money will be used for the program.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Carter.

OPponents: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.