

~~Southern Maryland~~ Charles County Prostate Cancer Pilot Program

FOR the purpose of establishing the ~~Southern Maryland~~ Charles County Prostate Cancer Pilot Program; providing for the purpose of the Program; providing for eligibility for the Program; requiring the Program to provide certain services and activities; requiring the Program to be funded as provided in the State budget; requiring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to distribute grants to certain local health departments to administer the Program; requiring the Department to make a certain report to certain committees of the General Assembly on or before a certain date; authorizing a certain local health officer to establish an advisory committee to oversee a certain grant process and community education and outreach effort; defining certain terms; providing for the termination of this Act; and generally relating to the ~~Southern Maryland~~ Charles County Prostate Cancer Pilot Program.

BY adding to

Article – Health – General

Section 13-2501 through 13-2507 to be under the new subtitle “Subtitle 25.

~~Southern Maryland~~ Charles County Prostate Cancer Pilot Program”

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2005 Replacement Volume and 2006 Supplement)

Preamble

WHEREAS, Prostate cancer is the most common cancer and the second leading cause of cancer death among men; and

WHEREAS, More than 200,000 men are diagnosed with prostate cancer each year in the United States; and

WHEREAS, African-American men face a far greater risk from prostate cancer than Caucasian men; and

WHEREAS, Caucasian men will contract prostate cancer at a rate of 147 per 100,000 while African-American men will contract prostate cancer at a rate of 222 per 100,000; and

WHEREAS, ~~Southern Maryland~~ Charles County has had the highest incidence of prostate cancer diagnoses and deaths in Maryland from 1997-2001 and has consistently held the highest prostate cancer incidence rate in Maryland for the last decade; and

WHEREAS, Men living in rural areas are diagnosed with higher-stage prostate cancer than men living in urban areas; and