

be administered by the local health departments in a certain manner; specifying eligibility for the Program; ~~requiring the Department to fund the Program at certain levels for certain fiscal years;~~ requiring the Department to adopt regulations, ~~to make a certain report to the General Assembly;~~ and to work with ~~certain organizations interested parties to assure that breast cancer screening services are available to certain individuals;~~ requiring that certain funds be allocated to the Program; requiring the Department to provide a certain report to the General Assembly by a certain date; defining certain terms; and generally relating to the Breast Cancer Screening Program.

BY adding to

Article - Health - General

Section 20-116

Annotated Code of Maryland

(1996 Replacement Volume and 1997 Supplement)

Preamble

~~WHEREAS, Approximately 3,400 Maryland women are stricken with breast cancer each year and approximately 800 of them die from the disease; and~~

~~WHEREAS, Early detection through mammography screening is by far the most important tool medical science has in fighting breast cancer; and~~

~~WHEREAS, A mammography screening program conducted by the Health Services Cost Review Commission for low income, underinsured and low income, uninsured women age 40 years and over, which detected an estimated 500 cases of breast cancer in nearly 4 years, expired on June 30, 1997 with no comprehensive replacement program in place for thousands of women who need mammograms, but cannot afford them; and~~

~~WHEREAS, There is a need to continue and expand on the existing federally funded U.S. Centers for Disease Control Breast Cancer and Cervical Screening Program in this State due to the expiration of the mammography screening program conducted by HSCRC; and~~

~~WHEREAS, The State of Maryland has conducted, for several years, a vigorous public campaign urging women to get their yearly mammograms; and~~

~~WHEREAS, The Maryland General Assembly believes women age 40 years and over should not be denied the opportunity to get a mammogram because of their lack of financial resources; now, therefore,~~

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