

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2009

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SENATE BILL 228

Short Title: DHHS/Office of Men's Health. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Forrester, Purcell, Dorsett, Malone; Goss, and Swindell.

Referred to: Health Care.

February 19, 2009

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE OFFICE OF MEN'S HEALTH WITHIN THE  
3 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AS RECOMMENDED BY  
4 THE PUBLIC HEALTH STUDY COMMISSION.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** Chapter 130A of the General Statutes is amended by adding the  
7 following new Article to read:

8 "Article 5A.

9 "Men's Health.

10 **§ 130A-131.26. Office of Men's Health established.**

11 (a) There is established in the Department the Office of Men's Health. The purpose of  
12 the Office is to expand the State's public health concerns and focus to include a comprehensive  
13 outlook on the overall health status of men. The primary goals of the Office shall be the  
14 prevention of disease and improvement in the quality of life for men over their entire lifespan.  
15 The Department shall develop strategies for achieving these goals which shall include, but not  
16 be limited to:

- 17 (1) Developing a strategic plan to improve public services and programs  
18 targeting men;  
19 (2) Conducting policy analyses on specific issues related to men's health;  
20 (3) Facilitating communication among the Department's programs and between  
21 the Department and external men's health groups and community-based  
22 organizations;  
23 (4) Building public health awareness and capacity regarding men's health issues  
24 by providing a series of services, including evaluation, recommendation,  
25 technical assistance, and training; and  
26 (5) Developing initiatives for modification or expansion of health services  
27 oriented towards men's health issues with the intent of establishing  
28 meaningful public/private partnerships in the future.

29 (b) The Office shall study the feasibility of establishing initiatives for:

- 30 (1) Early intervention services for men infected with HIV; and  
31 (2) Outreach, treatment, and follow-up services to men at high risk for  
32 contracting sexually transmitted diseases.

33 In conducting the study, the Department shall take into consideration related services already in  
34 place in the Department and at the local level."

35 **SECTION 2.** The Department of Health and Human Services shall use funds  
36 available for the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 fiscal years to implement this act.

37 **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2009.

