

(H. B. 2459)

(No. 228)

(Approved October 13, 2006)

AN ACT

To designate the month of October of each year as “Breast Cancer Prevention Month in Puerto Rico,” to raise awareness, educate and warn our citizens about this illness.

STATEMENT OF MOTIVES

The most common type of cancer among women in the United States is breast cancer, and in Puerto Rico, it is the cause of 20 percent of the deaths due to this illness. However, it has been demonstrated that this illness, although infrequently, also affects men. Each year, some 1,300 men are informed that they have breast cancer. In 2005, there were 1,690 cases reported and 460 deaths.

Studies show there is a relation between the number of advanced stage breast cancer cases and not having had mammograms performed between one and three years prior to the cancer diagnosis. This means that the sooner the detection tests, diagnosis and treatment begins the greater probability for recovery is greater.

October has been identified as Breast Cancer Awareness Month, and with that purpose, several non-profit organizations, as well as private companies, joint in the task of creating programs and educational campaigns to educate people about the illness, teach them how to perform self-examinations, and urge them to have a mammography performed.

For all of the above, this Legislature deems it is important to designate the month of October of each year as “Breast Cancer Prevention Month,” to raise awareness, educate and warn men and women of all ages about this illness.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF PUERTO RICO:

Section 1.- The months of October of each year is hereby designated as “Breast Cancer Prevention Month in Puerto Rico,” to raise awareness, educate and warn our citizens about this illness.

Section 2.- No later than ten (10) days prior to the beginning of October of each year, the Governor of the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico shall issue an annual proclamation as to exhort the people of Puerto Rico to join the observance provided in this Act.

Section 3.- The Department of the Family, the Office of Elderly Affairs, the Office of Women’s Affairs, the Department of Education, as well as the other public bodies and entities, the Municipalities of Puerto Rico and any other non-profit entities shall adopt the necessary measures to achieve the objectives of this Act, by organizing and holding activities to observe “Breast Cancer Prevention Month in Puerto Rico.”

Section 4.- A copy of the Annual Proclamation shall be distributed to the mass communications media of the Island for its disclosure and/or publication.

Section 5.- This Act shall take effect immediately after its approval.

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify to the Secretary of State that the following Act No. 188 (H.B. 2331) of the 4th Session of the 15th Legislature of Puerto Rico:

AN ACT to amend subsections (3), (8), and (9) of Section 2 of Act No. 2 of November 7, 1975, as amended, known as the “Act for the Certificates of Necessity and Convenience of the Department of Health,” in order to clarify the requirements related to obtaining a certificate of necessity and convenience, and to increase the amounts of money related to capital investments and for the acquisition of the equipment necessary therefor,

has been translated from Spanish to English and that the English version is correct.

In San Juan, Puerto Rico, today 22nd of January of 2007.

Francisco J. Domenech
Director

CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify to the Secretary of State that the following Act No. 228 (H.B. 2459) of the 4th Session of the 15th Legislature of Puerto Rico:

AN ACT to designate the month of October of each year as “Breast Cancer Prevention Month in Puerto Rico,” to raise awareness, educate and warn our citizens about this illness,

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