

Introduced by Senator Vasconcellos

February 21, 2001

An act to add Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 104210) to Part 1 of Division 103 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to health, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 417, as introduced, Vasconcellos. Cancer: alternative treatment project.

Existing law makes various provisions for the prevention of disease and promotion of health, including establishing treatment and research programs relating to chronic diseases, including cancer.

This bill would require the State Department of Health Services to establish an alternative treatment cancer research project to test the effect of behavioral changes on the reduction and reversal of illness and disease.

The bill would appropriate \$3,000,000, without regard to fiscal years, from the General Fund to the department for purposes of the alternative treatment cancer research project.

Vote: ²/₃. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and declares as follows:
- 2 (a) State funding was critical to the early development of the
- 3 profound successes that have been achieved in the treatment of
- 4 heart disease through the financing of early research to test the
- 5 effectiveness of intensive behavioral changes, focused on diet,

1 exercise, and stress management. In fact, the early premise that the
2 progression of disease could be slowed down was ultimately
3 overshadowed by the astonishing research finding that heart
4 disease itself could be reversed using these practices.

5 (b) A timely investment into research to examine the value of
6 similar noninvasive and holistically based techniques in managing
7 potentially life-threatening illnesses, including cancer, could provide
8 similar value. Preventive research is in the interest of the health of
9 all Californians in general, and the quality of life of all those
10 diagnosed with serious medical conditions.

11 SEC. 2. Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 104210) is
12 added to Part 1 of Division 103 of the Health and Safety Code, to
13 read:

14 Article 3.5. Alternative Treatment Cancer Research Project

15 104210. The State Department of Health Services shall
16 establish an alternative treatment cancer research project, focused
17 on preventive and holistic measures, to test the effectiveness of
18 intensive behavioral changes in reducing or reversing illness and
19 disease with specific attention to diet, exercise, and stress
20 management. The initial research shall address the emerging
21 research on prostate cancer that is already underway in California,
22 but shall also seek potential research opportunities for other
23 cancers, including, but not limited to, breast and colon cancer.

24 SEC. 3. The sum of three million dollars (\$3,000,000,) is
25 hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the State
26 Department of Health Services, without regard to fiscal years, for
27 purposes of the alternative treatment cancer research project
28 provided for in Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 104210) of
29 Part 1 of Division 103 of the Health and Safety Code.
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