

# VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 2003 SESSION

## CHAPTER 548

*An Act to amend and reenact § 32.1-71.02 of the Code of Virginia, relating to notification of cancer patients of reports to the statewide cancer registry.*

[S 1010]

Approved March 18, 2003

**Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:**

**1. That § 32.1-71.02 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:**

§ 32.1-71.02. Notification of cancer patients of statewide cancer registry reporting.

~~The Commissioner, or his designee, shall develop and implement a system for notifying, within thirty days of receipt of the case record, A. Any physician diagnosing a malignant tumor or cancer shall, at such time and in such manner as considered appropriate by such physician, notify each patient whose name and record abstract is required to be reported to the statewide cancer registry pursuant to § 32.1-70 that personal identifying information about him has been included in the registry as required by law. The notification shall include (i) the purpose, objectives, reporting requirements, confidentiality policies and procedures of the statewide cancer registry, including, but not limited to, continued surveillance and investigation procedures and (ii) a copy of § 2.2-3800 of the Government Data Collection and Dissemination Practices Act.~~ Any physician required to so notify a patient that personal identifying information about him has been included in the cancer registry may, when, in the opinion of the physician, such notice would be injurious to the patient's health or well-being, provide the required notice to the patient's authorized representative or next of kin in lieu of notifying the patient.

B. Upon request to the statewide cancer registry, the patient whose personal identifying information has been submitted to such registry shall have a right to know the identity of the reporter of his information to such registry.