

VIRGINIA ACTS OF ASSEMBLY -- 1995 SESSION

CHAPTER 78

An Act to amend and reenact §§ 32.1-2, 32.1-11.3, and 32.1-11.4 of the Code of Virginia, relating to disease prevention and education, particularly as related to osteoporosis.

[H 1689]

Approved March 7, 1995

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That §§ 32.1-2, 32.1-11.3, and 32.1-11.4 of the Code of Virginia are amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 32.1-2. Finding and purpose.

The General Assembly finds that the protection, improvement and preservation of the public health and of the environment are essential to the general welfare of the citizens of the Commonwealth. For this reason, the State Board of Health and the State Health Commissioner, assisted by the State Department of Health, shall administer and provide a comprehensive program of preventive, curative, restorative and environmental health services, educate the citizenry in health and environmental matters, develop and implement health resource plans, collect and preserve vital records and health statistics, assist in research, and abate hazards and nuisances to the health and to the environment, both emergency and otherwise, thereby improving the quality of life in the Commonwealth.

This comprehensive program of preventive, curative, restorative, and environmental health services shall include prevention and education activities focused on women's health, including, but not limited to, osteoporosis, breast cancer, and other conditions unique to or more prevalent among women.

§ 32.1-11.3. Patient and community health education services.

The Board shall formulate a program of patient and community health education services to be provided by the Department on a regional, district, or local basis. The program shall include services addressing health promotion and disease prevention and shall encourage the coordination of local and private sector health education services. *This program shall include information on the causes, prevention, early detection, and treatment of osteoporosis.*

§ 32.1-11.4. Board to establish worksite health promotion grants program.

With such funds as are appropriated for this purpose, the Board of Health shall establish the worksite health promotion grants program. The Board may award grants for the provision of worksite health promotion programs that may include, among other things, on-site health education and screening efforts, information about health risk behaviors linked to preventable disease and disability, occupational safety and health programs, and employer-sponsored physical fitness programs. *All such programs shall include information on the causes, prevention, early detection, and treatment of osteoporosis.*

The Board shall appoint an advisory committee of specialists in the development and delivery of health promotion and disease prevention programs for the worksite to assist in the establishment of criteria for awarding such grants, the contents of the request for proposals, evaluation and ranking of grant applications, and for making recommendations for grant awards.