



General Assembly

January Session, 2025

**Raised Bill No. 1191**

LCO No. 3608



Referred to Committee on PUBLIC HEALTH

Introduced by:  
(PH)

**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A PANCREATIC CANCER SCREENING AND TREATMENT REFERRAL PROGRAM.**

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2025*) (a) As used in this section:

2 (1) "Pancreatic cancer screening and referral services" means  
3 necessary pancreatic cancer screening services and referral services for  
4 a procedure intended to treat cancer of the human pancreas, including,  
5 but not limited to, surgery, radiation therapy, chemotherapy and related  
6 medical follow-up services.

7 (2) "Unserved or underserved populations" means patients who are:  
8 (A) At or below two hundred fifty per cent of the federal poverty level  
9 for individuals; (B) without health coverage for pancreatic cancer  
10 screening services; and (C) of an age at which pancreatic cancer  
11 screening services are deemed appropriate by medical professionals.

12 (b) Not later than January 1, 2026, the Commissioner of Public Health  
13 shall establish, within available appropriations, a pancreatic cancer  
14 screening and treatment referral program within the Department of

15 Public Health, to (1) promote screening, detection and treatment of  
16 pancreatic cancer among unserved or underserved populations, while  
17 giving priority consideration to patients in minority communities, (2)  
18 educate the public regarding pancreatic cancer and the benefits of early  
19 detection, and (3) provide counseling and referral services for treatment.

20 (c) The program shall include, but need not be limited to:

21 (1) The establishment of a public education and outreach initiative to  
22 publicize (A) pancreatic cancer screening services and the extent of  
23 health coverage that may be available for such services; (B) the benefits  
24 of early detection of pancreatic cancer and the recommended frequency  
25 of screening services, including clinical examinations; and (C) the  
26 medical assistance program and any other public or private program  
27 that patients may use to access such services;

28 (2) The provision of pancreatic screening and treatment referral  
29 services by providers of such services who register with the Department  
30 of Public Health;

31 (3) The development of professional education programs, including,  
32 but not limited to, education concerning the benefits of early detection  
33 of pancreatic cancer and the recommended frequency of such pancreatic  
34 cancer screenings;

35 (4) The establishment of a system to track and follow up on all  
36 patients participating in the program who were screened for pancreatic  
37 cancer, which system shall include, but need not be limited to, follow-  
38 up of abnormal screening tests and referral to treatment services when  
39 needed and tracking such patients to be screened at recommended  
40 screening intervals; and

41 (5) A method of determining whether each participating provider of  
42 pancreatic cancer screening services is in compliance with federal and  
43 state quality assurance requirements.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>October 1, 2025</i>	New section
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**PH**      *Joint Favorable*