

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1219**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Baker**

February 27, 2015

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An act to add Article 4 (commencing with Section 104210) to Chapter 2 of Part 1 of Division 103 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to public health.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1219, as introduced, Baker. California Cancer Task Force.

Under existing law the State Department of Health Care Services is required to develop and maintain the Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Program to expand and ensure quality breast and cervical cancer treatment for low-income uninsured and underinsured individuals who are diagnosed with breast or cervical cancer, and is required to develop and implement a program to provide quality prostate cancer treatment for low-income and uninsured men. The State Department of Public Health is required to perform various public health functions, including providing for breast and cervical cancer screening services.

This bill would require the State Department of Health Care Services and the State Department of Public Health to convene a joint California Cancer Task Force to coordinate the agencies' efforts to address the most prevalent forms of cancer in California with specific goals, as provided.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.  
State-mandated local program: no.

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

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature hereby finds and declares all of  
2 the following:

3 (a) The American Cancer Society's Cancer Prevention Study—3  
4 recruited over 300,000 adults across the United States to help better  
5 understand the genetic, environmental, and lifestyle factors that  
6 cause or prevent cancer.

7 (b) In 2014, scientists estimated that in California more than  
8 1,382,200 people would live with a history of cancer, nearly  
9 156,000 would be diagnosed with cancer, and more than 56,000  
10 would die of cancer.

11 (c) From 1988 to 2010, cancer incidence rates in California  
12 declined by 9 percent.

13 (d) Despite these improvements, it is estimated nearly one in  
14 two Californians born today will develop cancer at some point in  
15 their lives, and it is likely that one in five will die of the disease.

16 (e) The exact reasons why one individual develops cancer, and  
17 another individual with very similar life experiences does not, are  
18 beyond scientific understanding. Just as there are many different  
19 types of cancers, there are many factors that contribute to an  
20 individual's risk of developing cancer.

21 (f) The goal of the American Cancer Society's Cancer  
22 Prevention Study—3 is to better understand those factors that  
23 contribute to cancer.

24 SEC. 2. Article 4 (commencing with Section 104210) is added  
25 to Chapter 2 of Part 1 of Division 103 of the Health and Safety  
26 Code, to read:

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#### Article 4. California Cancer Task Force

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30 104210. The State Department of Health Care Services and  
31 the State Department of Public Health shall convene a joint  
32 California Cancer Task Force to coordinate the agencies' efforts  
33 to address the most prevalent forms of cancer in California with  
34 all of the following specific goals:

35 (a) Improving early diagnosis and proper case management of  
36 cancer within the Medi-Cal program and other publicly funded  
37 health care programs.

1 (b) Improving outreach and education efforts to ensure  
2 California physicians benefit from the latest methods for early  
3 diagnosis and treatment of the most prevalent forms of cancer in  
4 California.

5 (c) Improving patient awareness of the need for early diagnosis  
6 of, and available treatments for, the most prevalent forms of cancer  
7 in California.

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