

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MAY 1, 2007

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 10, 2007

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2007–08 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 158

Introduced by Assembly Member Ma

January 18, 2007

An act to add Part 8 (commencing with Section 122430.10) to Division 105 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to public health, and making an appropriation therefor.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 158, as amended, Ma. Public health.

Existing law establishes the State Department of Public Health and sets forth its duties and responsibilities, including, but not limited to, responsibilities related to the development and implementation of a hepatitis C public education and outreach program.

This bill would require the department to establish a hepatitis B *and* C prevention and management pilot program within its Office of ~~Multi-Cultural~~ *Multicultural* Health to provide matching grants to public and not-for-profit organizations in the Los Angeles area and the San Francisco Bay area for the purposes of providing culturally and language appropriate public awareness and other activities relating to the prevention and management of hepatitis B *and* C.

This bill would establish the Hepatitis B Prevention and Management Pilot Program Fund, the moneys in which would be used by the department exclusively for purposes of this bill, and would appropriate \$4,000,000 from the General Fund to the department for deposit into

the fund. The bill would require the department to report to the Legislature by January 1, ~~2010~~ 2011.

Vote: $\frac{2}{3}$. Appropriation: yes. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

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

1 SECTION 1. Part 8 (commencing with Section 122430.10) is
2 added to Division 105 of the Health and Safety Code, to read:

3
4 PART 8. HEPATITIS B
5

6 122430.10. The Legislature finds and declares all of the
7 following:

8 (a) Approximately 1.4 million Americans are chronically
9 infected with the hepatitis B virus (HBV).

10 (b) HBV is extremely infectious, transmitted from mother to
11 newborn at birth, through infected blood or injections contaminated
12 by infected blood, and through unprotected sex.

13 (c) Persons chronically infected with HBV are at a higher risk
14 of developing cirrhosis of the liver or liver cancer.

15 (d) Asian Pacific Islander Americans make up more than
16 one-half of HBV carriers in the United States.

17 (e) Liver cancer that is primarily caused by HBV is the leading
18 cause of cancer death among Asian Pacific Islander men living in
19 California and is the most significant health disparity between
20 Asian Pacific Islanders and Caucasians.

21 (f) Chinese Americans have a three to four times higher risk for
22 liver cancer caused by HBV than Caucasian Americans.

23 (g) Korean Americans have a five to six times higher risk for
24 liver cancer caused by HBV than Caucasian Americans.

25 (h) Vietnamese Americans have a seven to eight times higher
26 risk for liver cancer caused by HBV than Caucasian Americans.

27 (i) There exists a vaccination for HBV that is safe, effective,
28 and widely available.

29 (j) Early diagnosis of HBV can reduce the risk of further
30 transmission and, where appropriate, treatment can reduce the risk
31 of progression to liver cancer. HBV diagnosis can be made with
32 a simple blood test.

1 (k) Regular monitoring of those chronically infected with HBV
2 can lead to the detection of liver cancer at a stage where cure is
3 still possible.

4 (l) The annual health care cost attributable to HBV in the United
5 States is estimated to be approximately \$2.5 billion.

6 122430.15. (a) The State Department of Public Health shall
7 establish within its Office of ~~Multi-Cultural~~ *Multicultural* Health,
8 a hepatitis B *and C* prevention and management pilot program to
9 provide education, outreach, counseling, and social services to
10 ethnic populations that are at high risk of hepatitis B *and C*
11 infection and to individuals among those populations suffering
12 from this disease.

13 (b) The program shall utilize existing programs and systems
14 operated by public and not-for-profit organizations to provide the
15 services described in subdivision (a).

16 (c) The department shall make and administer grants to the
17 public and not-for-profit organizations from funds appropriated
18 by the Legislature or donated to the state in order to provide these
19 services.

20 122430.20. (a) There is hereby established the Hepatitis B *and*
21 C Prevention and Management Pilot Program Fund.

22 (b) The fund shall be available to the Office of ~~Multi-Cultural~~
23 *Multicultural* Health in the department, upon appropriation of the
24 Legislature, exclusively for to the support of existing and ongoing
25 programs operated by nonprofit or academic organizations that
26 provide culturally and language appropriate health education,
27 public awareness campaigns, and community outreach activities,
28 especially to the ethnic communities with high rates of hepatitis
29 B *and C* infection and other high-risk groups, to promote public
30 awareness and knowledge about the value of hepatitis B *and C*
31 immunization, risk factors, the transmission and prevention of
32 hepatitis B *and C* , and the value of screening for early detection
33 of hepatitis B *and C* infection, and to conduct at least two of the
34 following:

35 (1) Testing programs to screen the high chronic hepatitis B *or*
36 C prevalence populations in order to identify chronically infected
37 individuals, and provide vaccines to protect susceptible adults.

38 (2) Programs for high-prevalence populations that provide
39 client-centered information, education, and counseling
40 concentrating on any of the following:

- 1 (A) Testing of family members.
- 2 (B) Modifying behaviors that place individuals at risk of
- 3 hepatitis B *or* C virus infection.
- 4 (C) Reducing the risk of dying from end-stage liver disease or
- 5 liver cancer among individuals with hepatitis B *or* C .
- 6 (D) Culturally appropriate health information for pregnant
- 7 women or those of childbearing age who are chronically infected
- 8 with hepatitis B *or* C to alleviate their fears of becoming pregnant
- 9 or raising a family.
- 10 (E) Referring persons with chronic hepatitis B *or* C for further
- 11 medical evaluation, monitoring, and treatment, as appropriate.
- 12 (3) The training of health care professionals and health educators
- 13 to make them aware of the high rates of chronic hepatitis B *or* C
- 14 in certain adult ethnic populations, and the importance of
- 15 prevention, detection, and medical management of hepatitis B *and*
- 16 C and of liver cancer screening.
- 17 (c) Funds appropriated to the fund shall be distributed to
- 18 nonprofit or academic organizations in the greater Los Angeles
- 19 and San Francisco Bay areas that during ~~2007~~ 2008 met the
- 20 requirement set forth in subdivision (b) and have conducted at
- 21 least two or more of the programs set forth in subdivision (b).
- 22 (d) In order to receive distributions from the fund, a recipient
- 23 organization shall do all of the following:
- 24 (1) Submit audited financial statements setting forth its
- 25 expenditures made in ~~2007~~ 2008 for activities described in
- 26 subdivision (b) to demonstrate a history of successfully providing
- 27 those services, including, but not limited to, conducting two or
- 28 more of the programs as set forth in subdivision (b), along with a
- 29 report on the specific activities engaged in and an analysis of the
- 30 impact of the programs and activities.
- 31 (2) Commit to using all distributions from the fund in the
- 32 ~~2008-09~~ 2009-10 fiscal year to meet the requirements of
- 33 subdivision (b), including conducting two or more of the programs
- 34 set forth in subdivision (b).
- 35 (3) Submit audited financial statements setting forth
- 36 expenditures made in the ~~2008-09~~ 2009-10 fiscal year
- 37 demonstrating that it has met the requirements of subdivision (b),
- 38 including, but not limited to, successfully conducting two or more
- 39 of the programs set forth in subdivision (b) during that fiscal year.

1 122430.25. Distributions from the fund shall be on a matching
2 dollar-for-dollar basis for each organization's expenditures up to
3 the total amount of funds available in the fund. However, funds
4 shall be distributed equally between the two geographic areas.

5 122430.30. The department shall report to the Legislature by
6 ~~January 1, 2010, regarding implementation, and recommendations~~
7 ~~regarding, the pilot program.~~ *January 1, 2011, regarding*
8 *implementation of, and recommendations for, the pilot program.*
9 *The department may contract with another entity to draft the*
10 *report.*

11 SEC. 2. The sum of four million dollars (\$4,000,000) is hereby
12 appropriated from the General Fund to the State Department of
13 Public Health for deposit into the Hepatitis B *and C* Prevention
14 and Management Pilot Program Fund established pursuant to
15 Section 122430.20 of the Health and Safety Code.