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inactivity, and smoking; and

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND

IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

JANUARY SESSION, A.D. 2011

AN ACT

RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- WOMEN'S CARDIOVASCULAR SCREENING AND RISK REDUCTION PILOT PROGRAM

Introduced By: Senators Crowley, Sosnowski, DeVall, Perry, and Miller

Date Introduced: January 19, 2011

Referred To: Senate Health & Human Services

It is enacted by the General Assembly as follows:

1 WHEREAS, Heart disease, stroke and other forms of cardiovascular disease are the 2 number one cause of death for women each year; and WHEREAS, Cardiovascular disease kills more women annually than the next five (5) 3 leading causes of death combined, which includes all forms of cancer; and 4 5 WHEREAS, Despite the statistics, many patients and health care providers alike tend to 6 think of heart disease as a disease that primarily afflicts men; and 7 WHEREAS, In February 2004, the American Heart Association began the vigorous "Go 8 Red for Women" public awareness campaign and a survey conducted in 2007 by the American 9 Heart Association found that forty-three percent (43%) of women are still not aware that heart 10 disease is the leading cause of death among women; and 11 WHEREAS, The WISEWOMEN program, administered by the Centers for Disease 12 Control and Prevention, provides low-income, underinsured, or uninsured women between forty 13 (40) and sixty-four (64) years of age with chronic disease risk factor screening, lifestyle 14 intervention, and referral services in an effort to prevent cardiovascular disease and promote 15 healthy lifestyles; and WHEREAS, WISEWOMEN programs provide standard preventive services, including 16

blood pressure and cholesterol testing and lifestyle programs targeting poor nutrition, physical

	WHEREAS, Rhode Island is currently not participating in the WISEWOMEN program
	due to lack of federal funding; and
	WHEREAS, The best chance for women in this state to reduce their mortality rates due to
	cardiovascular disease is through education and prevention.
	SECTION 1. Title 23 of the General Laws entitled "HEALTH AND SAFETY" is hereby
	amended by adding thereto the following chapter:
	CHAPTER 86
	WOMEN'S CARDIOVASCULAR SCREENING AND RISK REDUCTION PILOT PROGRAM
	23-86-1. Women's cardiovascular screening and risk reduction pilot program. – (a)
	The department of health (hereinafter, "the department") shall develop a cardiovascular disease
	screening and lifestyle intervention pilot program in Rhode Island's six (6) core cities for low-
	income, underinsured and uninsured women between forty (40) and sixty-four (64) years of age,
	inclusive, at risk for heart disease, diabetes and stroke, namely Pawtucket, Providence,
	Woonsocket, Newport, West Warwick and Central Falls.
	(b) The department shall develop the program based on the federal WISEWOMEN
	program administered by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The pilot program
	shall employ specified measures to gauge the impact and outcome of the program. These
	measures shall include the number of women served, the number who receive lifestyle
<u>i</u>	nterventions, the number of follow-up visits per woman, an evaluation of the use of progress
	markers to reduce risk factors, and a research and evaluation component.
	(c) The department shall prepare an annual report and submit it to the legislature by
	January 31 of each year. The annual report shall compare the cardiovascular health of women in
1	the pilot program to available data on the cardiovascular health of women nationally. The report
-	shall include a fiscal analysis and a recommendation outlining the benefits and costs of expanding
	the pilot program throughout the state after the program has been in existence for three (3) years.
	The pilot program shall expire July 1, 2014.
	SECTION 2. Appropriation. Sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000) each year is hereby
	appropriated for fiscal years 2012, 2013 and 2014 from the general fund to the director of health
	for the Women's Cardiovascular Screening and Risk Reduction Pilot Program established
	pursuant to chapter 23-84 of the State of Rhode Island general laws.
	SECTION 3. This act shall take effect upon passage.

EXPLANATION

BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

OF

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RELATING TO HEALTH AND SAFETY -- WOMEN'S CARDIOVASCULAR SCREENING AND RISK REDUCTION PILOT PROGRAM

This act would establish a women's cardiovascular screening and risk reduction pilot program.

This act would take effect upon passage.

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