

Talking Points

The Problem

- Prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed cancer in men.
- Prostate cancer is the second leading cause of cancer-related death in men.
- In 2023, an estimated 288,300 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer and 34,700 men will die from it.
 - After decades of decline, prostate cancer death rates are on the rise: it is estimated that in 2023 over 125,000 more men than in 2017 will be diagnosed with prostate cancer and over 8,000 more men will die from prostate cancer than in 2017.
 - This represents a 78% increase in diagnoses and a 15% rise in the death rate.
- A man will be diagnosed with prostate cancer every 2 minutes in 2023, and die from it every 15 minutes.
- African American men are at increased risk for the disease. 1 in 7 African American men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer.
- African American men are more than 2 times more likely to die from the disease and 1.8 times more likely to be diagnosed with the disease.
- Veterans who were exposed to herbicides like Agent Orange are at increased risk for developing prostate cancer and are more likely to have an aggressive form of the disease.
- If caught early, prostate cancer has a five-year survival rate of nearly 100%. However, for late-stage prostate cancer the five-year survival rate is 29%.
- The economic and social burden of prostate cancer is huge:
 - Prostate cancer is estimated to cost over \$8 billion in direct medical expenditures.
 - Men who survive after treatment frequently suffer from side effects, including impotence and incontinence

Access to Early Screening and Diagnosis

- Catching prostate cancer early is the key to long term survival.
- The prostate specific antigen (PSA) test is the current, widely used screening tool for prostate cancer detection.
- Cost-sharing of any amount can be a barrier to the receipt of needed health care services.
- Black men and men with a family history of prostate cancer, including a family history of genetic alterations or other cancer associated with increased prostate cancer risk, have a much higher risk of prostate cancer than the general public, making regular screening even more important.
- H.R. 1826 eliminates cost-sharing for PSA testing for men at high risk, ensuring that no one goes without this vital service because of cost.
- This legislation would give prostate cancer screening parity with other high-value preventive services, like mammography.

The Ask

- Please cosponsor the PSA Screening for HIM Act (H.R. 1826), which was introduced by Reps. Larry Bucshon, MD (R-IN) and Yvette Clarke (D-NY). The bill would essentially require that high-risk men (those with a close family history of disease or African American men) have access to prostate cancer screening without any out-of-pocket cost, eliminating unnecessary barriers to early diagnosis and treatment.