

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2749 Session of
1998

INTRODUCED BY MICOZZIE, COLAFELLA, VANCE, GANNON, CIVERA,
LAUGHLIN, ADOLPH, COLAIZZO, ZIMMERMAN, ROONEY, BUXTON AND
BARRAR, AUGUST 10, 1998

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON INSURANCE, AUGUST 10, 1998

AN ACT

1 Amending the act of April 22, 1994 (P.L.136, No.20), entitled
2 "An act mandating health insurance coverage of annual
3 gynecological examinations and routine pap smears; and making
4 repeals," further providing for policy and coverage.

5 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
6 hereby enacts as follows:

7 Section 1. Section 2 of the act of April 22, 1994 (P.L.136,
8 No.20), known as the Women's Preventative Health Services Act,
9 is amended by adding paragraphs to read:

10 Section 2. Declaration of policy.

11 The General Assembly finds and declares as follows:

12 * * *

13 (8) Technological advances in medical science have led
14 to the development of newer tests which yield results
15 superior to those obtained with the conventional
16 cervicovaginal Papanicolaou test or pap smear.

17 (9) In 1996, the United States Food and Drug
18 Administration approved the fluid-based thin-layer

preparation test as a replacement for the conventional
cervicovaginal Papanicolaou test or pap smear.

(10) In approving the fluid-based thin-layer
preparation, the United States Food and Drug Administration
determined the new test was significantly more effective than
the conventional cervicovaginal Papanicolaou test or pap
smear.

(11) It is the policy of the Commonwealth not to limit
women's access to the best available preventative health care
by requiring health insurance coverage for outdated cancer
screening methods.

Section 2. Section 4 of the act is amended to read:

Section 4. Mandated coverage.

A health insurance policy which is delivered, issued for
delivery, renewed, extended or modified in this Commonwealth by
a health care insurer shall provide that the health insurance
benefits applicable under the policy include coverage for
periodic health maintenance to include:

(1) Annual gynecological examination, including a pelvic
examination and clinical breast examination.

[(2) Routine pap smears in accordance with the
recommendations of the American College of Obstetricians and
Gynecologists.]

(2) Cervical cancer screening methods the United States
Food and Drug Administration has determined to be
significantly more effective than the conventional
cervicovaginal Papanicolaou tests. Such screening methods
shall include fluid-based thin-layered preparation tests.
Providers and laboratories shall be reimbursed for such
screening methods at their usual and customary rate.

1 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 60 days.