

RESOLUTION 47-15

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3 Title: Breast Density Legislation: Information without Education
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5 Introduced by: Domenic R. Federico, MD, for the Kent County Delegation
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7 Original Author: Tammy Kreuzer, MD
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9 Referred to: Reference Committee E
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11 House Action: **APPROVED**
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14 Whereas, the sensitivity of mammography is reduced by 10-20 percent as
15 background breast tissue density increases, and

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17 Whereas, approximately 50 percent of women have dense breast tissue on
18 mammography, and

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20 Whereas, there are multiple, evidence-based risk factors for breast cancer
21 such as age, family history, alcohol use, and obesity, and

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23 Whereas, in comparison, there is no clear evidence to support a significant
24 lifetime increased risk of breast cancer with dense breast tissue, and

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26 Whereas, the current American Cancer Society recommendations for
27 screening mammography are the same for women with dense breasts as for the rest
28 of the population, and

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30 Whereas, mammography is the only screening modality that has undergone
31 randomized controlled clinical trials demonstrating a reduction in breast cancer
32 mortality for women of all breast densities, and

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34 Whereas, there is no recommendation to replace mammography with another
35 test in any subset of the population, and

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37 Whereas, that while additional imaging tools are available that may detect
38 breast cancers missed by mammography such as breast MRI and ultrasound, breast
39 MRI is currently only recommended for patients who are at very high risk (>20 percent
40 lifetime risk of breast cancer), based on American Cancer Society recommendations,
41 and

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43 Whereas, Public Act 517 of 214, which mandates that women with dense
44 breast tissue must receive formal notification with specified verbiage that they have
45 dense breast tissue, will become effective on June 1, 2015, and

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47 Whereas, this notification directs women to discuss their mammography results
48 and possible additional tests with their physicians, and

49 Whereas, this legislation may unduly alarm women and their physicians to
50 consider unnecessary additional imaging, possibly with increased out-of-pocket
51 expense; therefore be it

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53 RESOLVED: That MSMS seek legislation to improve the mandated verbiage
54 of the formal notification required by Public Act 517 of 2014 to better reflect current
55 evidence; and be it further

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57 RESOLVED: That MSMS provide educational materials for use by physicians
58 and their patients in response to the passage of Public Act 517 of 2014.

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61 WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: Educational programs can range
62 significantly depending on the intention of the author. Education material available on
63 the website would not have a fiscal note. An online webinar would be approximately
64 \$1,000. A one-day conference on this topic would range from \$5,000 - \$10,000.