

For Immediate Release
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Men's Health Act of 2007: Over 50 Cosponsors

Washington, D.C., January 29, 2008 – The Men's Health Act of 2007 (H.R. 1440) has surpassed the 50-cosponsor mark. The bill introduced jointly by Vito Fossella (NY-13) and Baron Hill (IN-9) authorizes the establishment of an Office of Men's Health (OMH) in Health and Human Services. Senator Crapo (ID) is sponsoring the Senate version. As of today, 53 members of the U.S. House of Representatives support this monumental initiative for American men's health.

The Office of Men's Health will be designed to monitor and coordinate efforts to improve the health of men by streamlining government effort at the federal and state levels in the areas of prevention, health education, outreach and research.

The OMH would be charged with investigating a wide range of issues involving men's health, including:

- The growing life expectancy gap between men and women, which has increased from one year in 1920 to almost six years in 2002;
- The high incidence of prostate cancer, which now accounts for over 28% of all cancer cases in men;
- The almost 8,000 cases of testicular cancer annually, which often go untreated because many men delay seeking treatment after discovering a mass;
- The lack of regular check-ups and preventative health screening tests among men (studies show that women are 100 percent more likely than men to visit a doctor);
- Over ½ of elderly widows now living in poverty were not poor before the deaths of their husband;
- Promoting tests such as prostate specific antigen (PSA) exams and blood pressure, blood sugar, and cholesterol screens, in conjunction with clinical exams and self-testing to detect health problems early on and increase survival rates, and
- Promoting physical activity and balanced diets to prevent obesity and its side effects.

An Office of Men's Health will serve as a forum for men's health issues and a central source of information for men across the country. For many men, it is simply a matter of being encouraged to go to the doctor – and the Office of Men's Health will provide information about the risks and health issues specific to men for both themselves and their families.

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To show your support, please write, call, or e-mail your Congressional representatives. For information on how to contact them, please go to [Men's Health Office](#).

Men's Health Network is a non-profit educational organization comprised of physicians, researchers, public health workers, individuals and other health professionals. MHN is committed to improving the health and wellness of men through education campaigns, data collection and work with health care providers to provide better programs and funding on men's health needs.

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