

**Committee on Public Health
Bill Summary**

Bill No. H2432
Title: *An Act to reduce incidence and death from pancreatic cancer*
Sponsor: Representatives Carmine Gentile and Hannah Kane
Committee: Public Health
Hearing Date: June 11, 2025
Similar Matters: S1484
Prior History: Refile of H2182 of 23-24; referred to Public Health; accompanied by S1330; reported favorably and referred to Health Care Financing; accompanied a study order.
Reporting Deadline: August 10, 2025

Current Law:

- **M.G.L. Chapter 111** pertains to public health.

Summary:

This bill adds a new section to Chapter 111 that would require DPH to administer a comprehensive pancreatic cancer initiative to provide coordinated pancreatic cancer prevention, screening, education and support programs in the Commonwealth.

SECTION 1 would add a new section, Section 245, to M.G.L. Chapter 111.

Section 245:

(a) DPH would implement a pancreatic cancer initiative to provide coordinated pancreatic cancer prevention, screening, education, and support programs.

(b) Establishes a 13-member pancreatic cancer advisory council within DPH, representing interdisciplinary fields including oncology, palliative care, medicine, nursing, social work, pharmacy, spirituality and the area of patient and family caregiver advocacy. This subsection also outlines tasks of the council:

- Investigate and make recommendations for a system to certify hospitals that meet National Pancreatic Cancer Foundation criteria
- Investigate and make recommendations for establishing a multi-provider consortium that would develop and share best practices for improving care for patients with pancreatic cancer
- Disseminate targeted communications to primary care providers to connect them with consortium members and local resources

- Work with DPH to conduct a comprehensive study of the prevalence and incidence of pancreatic cancer, unmet needs of patients and their families, and time of diagnosis statistics and likely risks for pancreatic cancer.

(c) DPH, along with the pancreatic cancer advisory council, must conduct a comprehensive study on the prevalence and incidence of pancreatic cancer in the Commonwealth, focusing on unmet needs, diagnosis timing, and risk factors.

(d) DPH, along with the advisory council, will develop a statewide public education program to raise awareness about the genetic risks, signs, symptoms, premalignant conditions related to pancreatic cancer, and available clinical trials. The commissioner of DPH must consult with existing programs associated with pancreatic cancer. Additionally, subsection (d) requires DPH to include pancreatic cancer to the list of diseases that its programs target with counseling programs for tobacco cessation and diet management.

SECTION 2 requires the commissioner of insurance to survey health insurers to ascertain coverage benefits of genetic testing for pancreatic cancer across health insurance plans.

SECTION 3 requires CHIA to conduct a review and update its mandatory benefit review of pancreatic cancer screenings, which must be presented to the Health Care Financing and Financial Services Committee by June 30, 2026.

SECTION 4 The advisory council would convene no later than 60 days after the effective date of this act.