

SENATE No. 2181

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

—————
In the Year Two Thousand Fourteen
—————

SENATE, Monday, June 9, 2014

The committee on Ethics and Rules, to whom was referred the House Bill relative to breast cancer early detection (House, No. 3733); reports, recommending that the same ought to pass with an amendment striking out all after the enacting clause and inserting in place thereof the text of Senate document numbered 2181.

For the committee,
Stanley C. Rosenberg

SENATE No. 2181

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

In the Year Two Thousand Fourteen

1 SECTION 1. Subsection (b) of section 5Q of chapter 111 of the General Laws, as
2 appearing in the 2012 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding the following paragraph:-

3 Every provider of mammography services shall, if a patient's mammogram reveals dense
4 breast tissue, as determined by the interpreting physician based on standards promulgated by the
5 American College of Radiology, provide written notification to the patient, in terms easily
6 understood by a lay person. The notification shall include, at minimum, the following
7 information:

8 1) that the patient's mammogram shows dense breast tissue;

9 2) the degree of density apparent and an explanation of that degree of density;

10 3) that dense breast tissue is common and not abnormal but that dense breast
11 tissue may increase the risk of breast cancer;

12 4) that dense breast tissue can make it more difficult to find cancer on a
13 mammogram and that additional testing may be needed for reliable breast cancer screening;

14 5) that additional screening may be advisable and that the patient should discuss
15 the results of the mammogram with the patient's referring physician or primary care physician;

16 6) that the patient has the right to discuss the results of the patient's mammogram
17 with the interpreting radiologist or the referring physician;

18 7) that a report of the patient's mammogram has been sent to the referring
19 physician and will become part of the patient's medical record; and

20 8) where the patient can find additional information about dense breast tissue.

21 SECTION 2. The department of public health shall promulgate regulations to implement
22 the second paragraph of subsection (b) of section 5Q of chapter 111 of the General Laws by
23 January 1, 2015.