Public Law 102-539
102d Congress

An Act

To amend the Public Health Service Act to establish the authority for the regulation of mammography services and radiological equipment, and for other purposes.

Oct. 27, 1992
[H.R. 6182]

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

Mammography Quality Standards Act of 1992.
42 USC 201 note.

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Mammography Quality Standards Act of 1992".

SEC. 2. CERTIFICATION OF MAMMOGRAPHY FACILITIES.

Part F of title III of the Public Health Service Act (42 U.S.C. 262 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new subpart:

"Subpart 3—Mammography Facilities

"SEC. 354. CERTIFICATION OF MAMMOGRAPHY FACILITIES.

42 USC 263b.

"(a) DEFINITIONS.—As used in this section:

"(1) ACCREDITATION BODY.—The term 'accreditation body' means a body that has been approved by the Secretary under subsection (e)(1)(A) to accredit mammography facilities.

"(2) CERTIFICATE.—The term 'certificate' means the certificate described in subsection (b)(1).

"(3) FACILITY.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The term 'facility' means a hospital, outpatient department, clinic, radiology practice, or mobile unit, an office of a physician, or other facility as determined by the Secretary, that conducts breast cancer screening or diagnosis through mammography activities. Such term does not include a facility of the Department of Veterans Affairs.

"(B) ACTIVITIES.—For the purposes of this section, the activities of a facility include the operation of equipment to produce the mammogram, the processing of the film, the initial interpretation of the mammogram and the viewing conditions for that interpretation. Where procedures such as the film processing, or the interpretation of the mammogram are performed in a location different from where the mammogram is performed, the facility performing the mammogram shall be responsible for meeting the quality standards described in subsection (f).

"(4) INSPECTION.—The term 'inspection' means an onsite evaluation of the facility by the Secretary, or State agency on behalf of the Secretary.

"(5) MAMMOGRAM.—The term 'mammogram' means a radiographic image produced through mammography.

"(6) MAMMOGRAPHY.—The term 'mammography' means radiography of the breast.

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"(7) SURVEY.—The term 'survey' means an onsite physics consultation and evaluation performed by a medical physicist as described in subsection (f)(1)(E).

"(b) CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENT.—

"(1) CERTIFICATE.—No facility may conduct an examination or procedure described in paragraph (2) involving mammography after October 1, 1994, unless the facility obtains—

"(A) a certificate—

"(i) that is issued, and, if applicable, renewed, by the Secretary in accordance with subsection (c)(1);

"(ii) that is applicable to the examination or procedure to be conducted; and

"(iii) that is displayed prominently in such facility; or

"(B) a provisional certificate—

"(i) that is issued by the Secretary in accordance with subsection (c)(2);

"(ii) that is applicable to the examination or procedure to be conducted; and

"(iii) that is displayed prominently in such facility.

The reference to a certificate in this section includes a provisional certificate.

"(2) EXAMINATION OR PROCEDURE.—A facility shall obtain a certificate in order to—

"(A) operate radiological equipment that is used to image the breast;

"(B) provide for the interpretation of a mammogram produced by such equipment at the facility or under arrangements with a qualified individual at a facility different from where the mammography examination is performed; and

"(C) provide for the processing of film produced by such equipment at the facility or under arrangements with a qualified individual at a facility different from where the mammography examination is performed.

"(c) ISSUANCE AND RENEWAL OF CERTIFICATES.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may issue or renew a certificate for a facility if the person or agent described in subsection (d)(1)(A) meets the applicable requirements of subsection (d)(1) with respect to the facility. The Secretary may issue or renew a certificate under this paragraph for not more than 3 years.

"(2) PROVISIONAL CERTIFICATE.—The Secretary may issue a provisional certificate for an entity to enable the entity to qualify as a facility. The applicant for a provisional certificate shall meet the requirements of subsection (d)(1), except providing information required by clauses (iii) and (iv) of subsection (d)(1)(A). A provisional certificate may be in effect no longer than 6 months from the date it is issued, except that it may be extended once for a period of not more than 90 days if the owner, lessor, or agent of the facility demonstrates to the Secretary that without such extension access to mammography in the geographic area served by the facility would be significantly reduced and if the owner, lessor, or agent of the facility will describe in a report to the Secretary steps that will be taken to qualify the facility for certification under subsection (b)(1).

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"(d) APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE.—

"(1) SUBMISSION.—The Secretary may issue or renew a certificate for a facility if—

"(A) the person who owns or leases the facility or an authorized agent of the person, submits to the Secretary, in such form and manner as the Secretary shall prescribe, an application that contains at a minimum—

"(i) a description of the manufacturer, model, and type of each x-ray machine, image receptor, and processor operated in the performance of mammography by the facility;

"(ii) a description of the procedures currently used to provide mammography at the facility, including—

"(I) the types of procedures performed and the number of such procedures performed in the prior 12 months;

"(II) the methodologies for mammography; and

"(III) the names and qualifications (educational background, training, and experience) of the personnel performing mammography and the physicians reading and interpreting the results from the procedures;

"(iii) proof of on-site survey by a qualified medical physicist as described in subsection (f)(1)(E); and

"(iv) proof of accreditation in such manner as the Secretary shall prescribe; and

"(B) the person or agent submits to the Secretary—

"(i) a satisfactory assurance that the facility will be operated in accordance with standards established by the Secretary under subsection (f) to assure the safety and accuracy of mammography;

"(ii) a satisfactory assurance that the facility will—

"(I) permit inspections under subsection (g);

"(II) make such records and information available, and submit such reports, to the Secretary as the Secretary may require; and

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"(III) update the information submitted under subparagraph (A) or assurances submitted under this subparagraph on a timely basis as required by the Secretary; and

"(iii) such other information as the Secretary may require.

An applicant shall not be required to provide in an application under subparagraph (A) any information which the applicant has supplied to the accreditation body which accredited the applicant, except as required by the Secretary.

"(2) APPEAL.—If the Secretary denies an application for the certification of a facility submitted under paragraph (1)(A), the Secretary shall provide the owner or lessor of the facility or the agent of the owner or lessor who submitted such application—

"(A) a statement of the grounds on which the denial is based, and

"(B) an opportunity for an appeal in accordance with the procedures set forth in regulations of the Secretary published at 42 C.F.R. 498 and in effect on the date of the enactment of this section.

"(3) EFFECT OF DENIAL.—If the application for the certification of a facility is denied, the facility may not operate unless the denial of the application is overturned at the conclusion of the administrative appeals process provided in the regulations referred to in paragraph (2)(B).

"(e) ACCREDITATION.—

"(1) APPROVAL OF ACCREDITATION BODIES.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may approve a private nonprofit organization or State agency to accredit facilities for purposes of subsection (d)(1)(A)(iv) if the accreditation body meets the standards for accreditation established by the Secretary as described in subparagraph (B) and provides the assurances required by subparagraph (C).

"(B) STANDARDS.—The Secretary shall establish standards for accreditation bodies, including—

"(i) standards that require an accreditation body to perform—

"(I) a review of clinical images from each facility accredited by such body not less often than every 3 years which review will be made by qualified practicing physicians; and

"(II) a review of a random sample of clinical images from such facilities in each 3-year period beginning October 1, 1994, which review will be made by qualified practicing physicians;

"(ii) standards that prohibit individuals conducting the reviews described in clause (i) from maintaining any financial relationship to the facility undergoing review which would constitute a conflict of interest;

"(iii) standards that limit the imposition of fees for accreditation to reasonable amounts;

"(iv) standards that require as a condition of accreditation that each facility undergo a survey at least annually by a medical physicist as described in subsection (f)(1)(E) to ensure that the facility meets the standards described in subparagraphs (A) and (B) of subsection (f)(1);

"(v) standards that require monitoring and evaluation of such survey, as prescribed by the Secretary;

"(vi) standards that are equal to standards established under subsection (f) which are relevant to accreditation as determined by the Secretary; and

"(vii) such additional standards as the Secretary may require.

"(C) ASSURANCES.—The accrediting body shall provide the Secretary satisfactory assurances that the body will—

"(i) comply with the standards as described in subparagraph (B);

"(ii) comply with the requirements described in paragraph (4);

"(iii) submit to the Secretary the name of any facility for which the accreditation body denies, suspends, or revokes accreditation;

"(iv) notify the Secretary in a timely manner before the accreditation body changes the standards of the body;

"(v) notify each facility accredited by the accreditation body if the Secretary withdraws approval of the accreditation body under paragraph (2) in a timely manner; and

"(vi) provide such other additional information as the Secretary may require.

"(D) REGULATIONS.—Not later than 9 months after the date of the enactment of this section, the Secretary shall promulgate regulations under which the Secretary may approve an accreditation body.

"(2) WITHDRAWAL OF APPROVAL.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall promulgate regulations under which the Secretary may withdraw the approval of an accreditation body if the Secretary determines that the accreditation body does not meet the standards under subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1), the requirements of clauses (i) through (vi) of subparagraph (C) of paragraph (1), or the requirements of paragraph (4). Regulations.

"(B) EFFECT OF WITHDRAWAL.—If the Secretary withdraws the approval of an accreditation body under subparagraph (A), the certificate of any facility accredited by the body shall continue in effect until the expiration of a reasonable period, as determined by the Secretary, for such facility to obtain another accreditation.

"(3) ACCREDITATION.—To be accredited by an approved accreditation body a facility shall meet—

"(A) the standards described in paragraph (1)(B) which the Secretary determines are applicable to the facility, and

"(B) such other standards which the accreditation body may require.

"(4) COMPLIANCE.—To ensure that facilities accredited by an accreditation body will continue to meet the standards of the accreditation body, the accreditation body shall—

"(A) make onsite visits on an annual basis of a sufficient number of the facilities accredited by the body to allow a reasonable estimate of the performance of the body; and

"(B) take such additional measures as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

Visits made under subparagraph (A) shall be made after providing such notice as the Secretary may require.

"(5) REVOCATION OF ACCREDITATION.—If an accreditation body revokes the accreditation of a facility, the certificate of the facility shall continue in effect until such time as may be determined by the Secretary.

"(6) EVALUATION AND REPORT.—

"(A) EVALUATION.—The Secretary shall evaluate annually the performance of each approved accreditation body by—

"(i) inspecting under subsection (g)(2) a sufficient number of the facilities accredited by the body to allow a reasonable estimate of the performance of the body; and

"(ii) such additional means as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

"(B) REPORT.—The Secretary shall annually prepare and submit to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives a report that describes the results of the evaluation conducted in accordance with subparagraph (A).

"(f) QUALITY STANDARDS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The standards referred to in subsection (d)(1)(B)(i) are standards established by the Secretary which include—

"(A) standards that require establishment and maintenance of a quality assurance and quality control program at each facility that is adequate and appropriate to ensure the reliability, clarity, and accuracy of interpretation of mammograms and standards for appropriate radiation dose;

"(B) standards that require use of radiological equipment specifically designed for mammography, including radiologic standards and standards for other equipment and materials used in conjunction with such equipment;

"(C) a requirement that personnel who perform mammography—

"(i)(I) be licensed by a State to perform radiological procedures; or

"(II) be certified as qualified to perform radiological procedures by an organization described in paragraph (2)(A); and

"(ii) during the 2-year period beginning October 1, 1994, meet training standards for personnel who perform mammography or meet experience requirements which shall at a minimum include 1 year of experience in the performance of mammography; and

"(iii) upon the expiration of such 2-year period meet minimum training standards for personnel who perform mammograms;

"(D) a requirement that mammograms be interpreted by a physician who is certified as qualified to interpret radiological procedures, including mammography—

"(i)(I) by a board described in paragraph (2)(B); or

"(II) by a program that complies with the standards described in paragraph (2)(C); and

"(ii) who meets training and continuing medical education requirements as established by the Secretary;

"(E) a requirement that individuals who survey mammography facilities be medical physicists—

"(i) licensed or approved by a State to perform such surveys, reviews, or inspections for mammography facilities;

"(ii) certified in diagnostic radiological physics or certified as qualified to perform such surveys by a board as described in paragraph (2)(D); or

"(iii) in the first 5 years after the date of the enactment of this section, who meet other criteria established by the Secretary which are comparable to the criteria described in clause (i) or (ii);

"(F) a requirement that a medical physicist who is qualified in mammography as described in subparagraph (E) survey mammography equipment and oversee quality assurance practices at each facility;

"(G) a requirement that—

"(i) a facility that performs any mammogram maintain the mammogram in the permanent medical records of the patient— Records.

"(I) for a period of not less than 5 years, or not less than 10 years if no additional mammograms of such patient are performed at the facility, or longer if mandated by State law; or

"(II) until such time as the patient should request that the patient's medical records be forwarded to a medical institution or a physician of the patient;

whichever is longer; and

"(ii)(I) a facility must assure the preparation of a written report of the results of any mammography examination signed by the interpreting physician; Reports.

"(II) such written report shall be provided to the patient's physicians (if any);

"(III) if such a physician is not available or if there is no such physician, the written report shall be sent directly to the patient; and

"(IV) if such report is sent to the patient, the report shall include a summary written in terms easily understood by a lay person; and

"(H) standards relating to special techniques for mammography of patients with breast implants.

Subparagraph (G) shall not be construed to limit a patient's access to the patient's medical records.

"(2) CERTIFICATION OF PERSONNEL.—The Secretary shall by regulation— Regulations.

"(A) specify organizations eligible to certify individuals to perform radiological procedures as required by paragraph (1)(C);

"(B) specify boards eligible to certify physicians to interpret radiological procedures, including mammography, as required by paragraph (1)(D);

"(C) establish standards for a program to certify physicians described in paragraph (1)(D); and

"(D) specify boards eligible to certify medical physicists who are qualified to survey mammography equipment and to oversee quality assurance practices at mammography facilities.

"(g) INSPECTIONS.—

"(1) ANNUAL INSPECTIONS.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may enter and inspect certified facilities to determine compliance with the standards established under subsection (f). The Secretary shall, if feasible, delegate to a State agency the authority to make such inspections.

"(B) IDENTIFICATION.—The Secretary, or State agency acting on behalf of the Secretary, may conduct inspections only on presenting identification to the owner, operator, or agent in charge of the facility to be inspected.

"(C) SCOPE OF INSPECTION.—In conducting inspections, the Secretary or State agency acting on behalf of the Secretary—

"(i) shall have access to all equipment, materials, records, and information that the Secretary or State agency considers necessary to determine whether the facility is being operated in accordance with this section; and

"(ii) may copy, or require the facility to submit to the Secretary or the State agency, any of the materials, records, or information.

"(D) QUALIFICATIONS OF INSPECTORS.—Qualified individuals, as determined by the Secretary, shall conduct all inspections. The Secretary may request that a State agency acting on behalf of the Secretary designate a qualified officer or employee to conduct the inspections, or designate a qualified Federal officer or employee to conduct inspections. The Secretary shall establish minimum qualifications and appropriate training for inspectors and criteria for certification of inspectors in order to inspect facilities for compliance with subsection (f).

"(E) FREQUENCY.—The Secretary or State agency acting on behalf of the Secretary shall conduct inspections under this paragraph of each facility not less often than annually.

"(F) RECORDS AND ANNUAL REPORTS.—The Secretary or a State agency acting on behalf of the Secretary which is responsible for inspecting mammography facilities shall maintain records of annual inspections required under this paragraph for a period as prescribed by the Secretary. Such a State agency shall annually prepare and submit to the Secretary a report concerning the inspections carried out under this paragraph. Such reports shall include a description of the facilities inspected and the results of such inspections.

"(2) INSPECTION OF ACCREDITED FACILITIES.—The Secretary shall inspect annually a sufficient number of the facilities accredited by an accreditation body to provide the Secretary with a reasonable estimate of the performance of such body.

"(3) INSPECTION OF FACILITIES INSPECTED BY STATE AGENCIES.—The Secretary shall inspect annually facilities inspected by State agencies acting on behalf of the Secretary to assure a reasonable performance by such State agencies.

"(4) TIMING.—The Secretary, or State agency, may conduct inspections under paragraphs (1), (2), and (3), during regular business hours or at a mutually agreeable time and after providing such notice as the Secretary may prescribe, except that the Secretary may waive such requirements if the continued performance of mammography at such facility threatens the public health.

"(5) LIMITED REINSPECTION.—Nothing in this section limits the authority of the Secretary to conduct limited reinspections of facilities found not to be in compliance with this section.

"(h) SANCTIONS.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—In order to promote voluntary compliance with this section, the Secretary may, in lieu of taking

the actions authorized by subsection (i), impose one or more of the following sanctions:

"(A) Directed plans of correction which afford a facility an opportunity to correct violations in a timely manner.

"(B) Payment for the cost of onsite monitoring.

"(2) CIVIL MONEY PENALTIES.—The Secretary may assess civil money penalties in an amount not to exceed $10,000 for—

"(A) failure to obtain a certificate as required by subsection (b),

"(B) each failure by a facility to substantially comply with, or each day on which a facility fails to substantially comply with, the standards established under subsection (f) or the requirements described in subclauses (I) through (III) of subsection (d)(1)(B)(ii), and

"(C) each violation, or for each aiding and abetting in a violation of, any provision of, or regulation promulgated under, this section by an owner, operator, or any employee of a facility required to have a certificate.

"(3) PROCEDURES.—The Secretary shall develop and implement procedures with respect to when and how each of the sanctions is to be imposed under paragraphs (1) and (2). Such procedures shall provide for notice to the owner or operator of the facility and a reasonable opportunity for the owner or operator to respond to the proposed sanctions and appropriate procedures for appealing determinations relating to the imposition of sanctions.

"(i) SUSPENSION AND REVOCATION.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The certificate of a facility issued under subsection (c) may be suspended or revoked if the Secretary finds, after providing, except as provided in paragraph (2), reasonable notice and an opportunity for a hearing to the owner or operator of the facility, that the owner, operator, or any employee of the facility—

"(A) has been guilty of misrepresentation in obtaining the certificate;

"(B) has failed to comply with the requirements of subsection (d)(1)(B)(ii)(III) or the standards established by the Secretary under subsection (f);

"(C) has failed to comply with reasonable requests of the Secretary for any record, information, report, or material that the Secretary concludes is necessary to determine the continued eligibility of the facility for a certificate or continued compliance with the standards established under subsection (f);

"(D) has refused a reasonable request of the Secretary, any Federal officer or employee duly designated by the Secretary, or any State officer or employee duly designated by the State, for permission to inspect the facility or the operations and pertinent records of the facility in accordance with subsection (g);

"(E) has violated or aided and abetted in the violation of any provision of, or regulation promulgated under, this section; or

"(F) has failed to comply with a sanction imposed under subsection (h).

"(2) ACTION BEFORE A HEARING.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may suspend the certificate of the facility before holding a hearing required by paragraph (1) if the Secretary makes the finding described in paragraph (1) and determines that—

"(i) the failure of a facility to comply with the standards established by the Secretary under subsection (f) presents a serious risk to human health; or

"(ii) a facility has engaged in an action described in subparagraph (D) or (E) of paragraph (1).

"(B) HEARING.—If the Secretary suspends a certificate under subparagraph (A), the Secretary shall provide an opportunity for a hearing to the owner or operator of the facility not later than 60 days from the effective date of the suspension. The suspension shall remain in effect until the decision of the Secretary made after the hearing.

"(3) INELIGIBILITY TO OWN OR OPERATE FACILITIES AFTER REVOCATION.—If the Secretary revokes the certificate of a facility on the basis of an act described in paragraph (1), no person who owned or operated the facility at the time of the act may, within 2 years of the revocation of the certificate, own or operate a facility that requires a certificate under this section.

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"(j) INJUNCTIONS.—If the Secretary determines that—

"(1) continuation of any activity related to the provision of mammography by a facility would constitute a serious risk to human health, the Secretary may bring suit in the district court of the United States for the district in which the facility is situated to enjoin continuation of the activity; and

"(2) a facility is operating without a certificate as required by subsection (b), the Secretary may bring suit in the district court of the United States for the district in which the facility is situated to enjoin the operation of the facility.

Upon a proper showing, the district court shall grant a temporary injunction or restraining order against continuation of the activity or against operation of a facility, as the case may be, without requiring the Secretary to post a bond, pending issuance of a final order under this subsection.

"(k) JUDICIAL REVIEW.—

"(1) PETITION.—If the Secretary imposes a sanction on a facility under subsection (h) or suspends or revokes the certificate of a facility under subsection (i), the owner or operator of the facility may, not later than 60 days after the date the action of the Secretary becomes final, file a petition with the United States court of appeals for the circuit in which the facility is situated for judicial review of the action. As soon as practicable after receipt of the petition, the clerk of the court shall transmit a copy of the petition to the Secretary or other officer designated by the Secretary. As soon as practicable after receipt of the copy, the Secretary shall file in the court the record on which the action of the Secretary is based, as provided in section 2112 of title 28, United States Code.

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"(2) ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE.—If the petitioner applies to the court for leave to adduce additional evidence, and shows to the satisfaction of the court that the additional evidence is material and that there were reasonable grounds for the

failure to adduce such evidence in the proceeding before the Secretary, the court may order the additional evidence (and evidence in rebuttal of the additional evidence) to be taken before the Secretary, and to be adduced upon the hearing in such manner and upon such terms and conditions as the court may determine to be proper. The Secretary may modify the findings of the Secretary as to the facts, or make new findings, by reason of the additional evidence so taken, and the Secretary shall file the modified or new findings, and the recommendations of the Secretary, if any, for the modification or setting aside of the original action of the Secretary with the return of the additional evidence.

"(3) JUDGMENT OF COURT.—Upon the filing of the petition referred to in paragraph (1), the court shall have jurisdiction to affirm the action, or to set the action aside in whole or in part, temporarily or permanently. The findings of the Secretary as to the facts, if supported by substantial evidence, shall be conclusive.

"(4) FINALITY OF JUDGMENT.—The judgment of the court affirming or setting aside, in whole or in part, any action of the Secretary shall be final, subject to review by the Supreme Court of the United States upon certiorari or certification, as provided in section 1254 of title 28, United States Code.

"(l) INFORMATION.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than October 1, 1996, and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall compile and make available to physicians and the general public information that the Secretary determines is useful in evaluating the performance of facilities, including a list of facilities—

"(A) that have been convicted under Federal or State laws relating to fraud and abuse, false billings, or kickbacks;

"(B) that have been subject to sanctions under subsection (h), together with a statement of the reasons for the sanctions;

"(C) that have had certificates revoked or suspended under subsection (i), together with a statement of the reasons for the revocation or suspension;

"(D) against which the Secretary has taken action under subsection (j), together with a statement of the reasons for the action;

"(E) whose accreditation has been revoked, together with a statement of the reasons of the revocation;

"(F) against which a State has taken adverse action; and

"(G) that meets such other measures of performance as the Secretary may develop.

"(2) DATE.—The information to be compiled under paragraph (1) shall be information for the calendar year preceding the date the information is to be made available to the public.

"(3) EXPLANATORY INFORMATION.—The information to be compiled under paragraph (1) shall be accompanied by such explanatory information as may be appropriate to assist in the interpretation of the information compiled under such paragraph.

"(m) STATE LAWS.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit the authority of any State to enact and enforce laws relating

to the matters covered by this section that are at least as stringent as this section or the regulations issued under this section.

"(n) NATIONAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE.—

"(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall establish an advisory committee to be known as the National Mammography Quality Assurance Advisory Committee (hereafter in this subsection referred to as the 'Advisory Committee').

"(2) COMPOSITION.—The Advisory Committee shall be composed of not fewer than 13, nor more than 19 individuals, who are not officers or employees of the Federal Government. The Secretary shall make appointments to the Advisory Committee from among—

"(A) physicians,

"(B) practitioners, and

"(C) other health professionals,

whose clinical practice, research specialization, or professional expertise include a significant focus on mammography. The Secretary shall appoint at least 4 individuals from among national breast cancer or consumer health organizations with expertise in mammography and at least 2 practicing physicians who provide mammography services.

"(3) FUNCTIONS AND DUTIES.—The Advisory Committee shall—

"(A) advise the Secretary on appropriate quality standards and regulations for mammography facilities;

"(B) advise the Secretary on appropriate standards and regulations for accreditation bodies;

"(C) advise the Secretary in the development of regulations with respect to sanctions;

"(D) assist in developing procedures for monitoring compliance with standards under subsection (f);

"(E) make recommendations and assist in the establishment of a mechanism to investigate consumer complaints;

"(F) report on new developments concerning breast imaging that should be considered in the oversight of mammography facilities;

"(G) determine whether there exists a shortage of mammography facilities in rural and health professional shortage areas and determine the effects of personnel or other requirements of subsection (f) on access to the services of such facilities in such areas;

"(H) determine whether there will exist a sufficient number of medical physicists after October 1, 1999, to assure compliance with the requirements of subsection (f)(1)(E);

"(I) determine the costs and benefits of compliance with the requirements of this section (including the requirements of regulations promulgated under this section); and

"(J) perform other activities that the Secretary may require.

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The Advisory Committee shall report the findings made under subparagraphs (G) and (I) to the Secretary and the Congress no later than October 1, 1993.

"(4) MEETINGS.—The Advisory Committee shall meet not less than quarterly for the first 3 years of the program and thereafter, at least biannually.

"(5) CHAIRPERSON.—The Secretary shall appoint a chairperson of the Advisory Committee.

"(o) CONSULTATIONS.—In carrying out this section, the Secretary shall consult with appropriate Federal agencies within the Department of Health and Human Services for the purposes of developing standards, regulations, evaluations, and procedures for compliance and oversight.

"(p) BREAST CANCER SCREENING SURVEILLANCE RESEARCH GRANTS.—

"(1) RESEARCH.—

"(A) GRANTS.—The Secretary shall award grants to such entities as the Secretary may determine to be appropriate to establish surveillance systems in selected geographic areas to provide data to evaluate the functioning and effectiveness of breast cancer screening programs in the United States, including assessments of participation rates in screening mammography, diagnostic procedures, incidence of breast cancer, mode of detection (mammography screening or other methods), outcome and follow up information, and such related epidemiologic analyses that may improve early cancer detection and contribute to reduction in breast cancer mortality. Grants may be awarded for further research on breast cancer surveillance systems upon the Secretary's review of the evaluation of the program.

"(B) USE OF FUNDS.—Grants awarded under subparagraph (A) may be used—

"(i) to study—

"(I) methods to link mammography and clinical breast examination records with population-based cancer registry data;

"(II) methods to provide diagnostic outcome data, or facilitate the communication of diagnostic outcome data, to radiology facilities for purposes of evaluating patterns of mammography interpretation; and

"(III) mechanisms for limiting access and maintaining confidentiality of all stored data; and

"(ii) to conduct pilot testing of the methods and mechanisms described in subclauses (I), (II), and (III) of clause (i) on a limited basis.

"(C) GRANT APPLICATION.—To be eligible to receive funds under this paragraph, an entity shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing such information as the Secretary may require.

"(D) REPORT.—A recipient of a grant under this paragraph shall submit a report to the Secretary containing the results of the study and testing conducted under clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (B), along with recommendations for methods of establishing a breast cancer screening surveillance system.

"(2) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary shall establish a breast cancer screening surveillance system based on the recommendations contained in the report described in paragraph (1)(D).

"(3) STANDARDS AND PROCEDURES.—The Secretary shall establish standards and procedures for the operation of the breast cancer screening surveillance system, including procedures to maintain confidentiality of patient records.

"(4) INFORMATION.—The Secretary shall recruit facilities to provide to the breast cancer screening surveillance system relevant data that could help in the research of the causes, characteristics, and prevalence of, and potential treatments for, breast cancer and benign breast conditions, if the information may be disclosed under section 552 of title 5, United States Code.

"(q) STATE PROGRAM.—

"(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may, upon application, authorize a State—

"(A) to carry out, subject to paragraph (2), the certification program requirements under subsections (b), (c), (d), (g)(1), (h), (i), and (j) (including the requirements under regulations promulgated pursuant to such subsections), and

"(B) to implement the standards established by the Secretary under subsection (f),

with respect to mammography facilities operating within the State.

"(2) APPROVAL.— The Secretary may approve an application under paragraph (1) if the Secretary determines that—

"(A) the State has enacted laws and issued regulations relating to mammography facilities which are the requirements of this section (including the requirements under regulations promulgated pursuant to such subsections), and

"(B) the State has provided satisfactory assurances that the State—

"(i) has the legal authority and qualified personnel necessary to enforce the requirements of and the regulations promulgated pursuant to this section (including the requirements under regulations promulgated pursuant to such subsections),

"(ii) will devote adequate funds to the administration and enforcement of such requirements, and

"(iii) will provide the Secretary with such information and reports as the Secretary may require.

"(3) AUTHORITY OF SECRETARY.—In a State with an approved application—

"(A) the Secretary shall carry out the Secretary's functions under subsections (e) and (f);

"(B) the Secretary may take action under subsections (h), (i), and (j); and

"(C) the Secretary shall conduct oversight functions under subsections (g)(2) and (g)(3).

"(4) WITHDRAWAL OF APPROVAL.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary may, after providing notice and opportunity for corrective action, withdraw the approval of a State's authority under paragraph (1) if the Secretary determines that the State does not meet the requirements of such paragraph. The Secretary shall promulgate regulations for the implementation of this subparagraph.

Regulations.

"(B) EFFECT OF WITHDRAWAL.—If the Secretary withdraws the approval of a State under subparagraph (A),

the certificate of any facility accredited by the State shall continue in effect until the expiration of a reasonable period, as determined by the Secretary, for such facility to obtain certification by the Secretary.

"(r) FUNDING.—

"(1) FEES.—

"(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall, in accordance with this paragraph assess and collect fees from persons described in subsection (d)(1)(A) (other than persons who are governmental entities, as determined by the Secretary) to cover the costs of inspections conducted under subsection (g)(1) by the Secretary or a State acting under a delegation under subparagraph (A) of such subsection. Fees may be assessed and collected under this paragraph only in such manner as would result in an aggregate amount of fees collected during any fiscal year which equals the aggregate amount of costs for such fiscal year for inspections of facilities of such persons under subsection (g)(1). A person's liability for fees shall be reasonably based on the proportion of the inspection costs which relate to such person.

"(B) DEPOSIT AND APPROPRIATIONS.—

"(i) DEPOSIT AND AVAILABILITY.—Fees collected under subparagraph (A) shall be deposited as an offsetting collection to the appropriations for the Department of Health and Human Services as provided in appropriation Acts and shall remain available without fiscal year limitation.

"(ii) APPROPRIATIONS.—Fees collected under subparagraph (A) shall be collected and available only to the extent provided in advance in appropriation Acts.

"(2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There are authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section—

"(A) to award research grants under subsection (q), such sums as may be necessary for each of the fiscal years 1993 through 1997; and

"(B) for the Secretary to carry out other activities which are not supported by fees authorized and collected under paragraph (1), such sums as may be necessary for fiscal year 1993 through 1997.".

SEC. 3. STUDY.

42 USC 263b note.

(a) STUDY.—The Comptroller General of the United States shall conduct a study of the certification program authorized by the amendment made by section 2 to determine—

(1) if the program has resulted in the improvement of the quality and accessibility of mammography services, and

(2) if the program has reduced the frequency of poor quality mammography and improved the early detection of breast cancer.

(b) REPORTS.—Not later than 3 years from the date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General shall submit to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources of the Senate and the Committee on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives an interim report of the results of the study under subsection (a). Not later than 5 years from such date the Comptroller General shall submit a final report on such study to such Committees.

Approved October 27, 1992.

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WEEKLY COMPILATION OF PRESIDENTIAL DOCUMENTS, Vol. 28 (1992):
Oct. 27, Presidential statement.