

I MINA'TRENTAI UNU NA LIHESLATURAN GUÅHAN
2012 (SECOND) Regular Session

Bill No. 525 -31 (COR)

Introduced by:

R.J. RESPICIO

2012 OCT 10 PM 3:19

AN ACT TO AMEND TITLE 10 GUAM CODE ANNOTATED CHAPTER 2 § 2208 RELATIVE TO MAMMOGRAM SCREENING, BY ADDING A NEW §2208.1 TO REQUIRE MAMMOGRAPHY REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR CERTAIN PATIENTS WHEN NECESSARY, RELATIVE TO BREAST DENSITY.

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF GUAM:

2 SECTION 1. **Legislative findings and intent.** Under Federal law,
3 and specifically the Affordable Care Act, doctors must provide certain
4 specific information concerning to the health and care of their patients.
5 Relative to mammography screenings, which are required every one to two
6 years for women over 40 years of age, a written report of the results of each
7 mammography examination, and a summary of that report, must be sent to
8 the patient within a specified time period.

9 *I Liheslatura* finds that while dense breast tissue is common, and is not
10 abnormal, such tissue can make it more difficult to evaluate the results of a
11 mammogram and may also be associated with an increased risk of breast
12 cancer. Information concerning dense breast tissue should be provided, in
13 addition to the results of their mammogram, to those specific patients with

1 dense breast tissue in order to raise the awareness of those patients.

2 *I Liheslatura* additionally finds that Digital Mammography has been
3 shown to be more effective in the early detection of breast cancer in women
4 with dense breast tissue when compared to film based mammography.

5 It is the intent of *I Liheslatura* that each health facility at which
6 mammography examinations are performed, shall include in the written
7 summary of the report sent to the patient, a prescribed notice concerning
8 breast density when the interpretive report indicates that the breasts are of
9 high density as defined by the American College of Radiology. In such
10 situations, it is the intent of this legislation to require the facility to notify
11 the woman that digital mammography should be considered as it may
12 allow for an earlier detection of breast cancer.

13 **SECTION 2. A NEW § 2208.1 is ADDED to Title 10 Guam Code**
14 **Annotated: Health and Safety, relative to mammograms, to read:**

15 **“§ 2208.1 Dense Breast Screening Notice to Patients.**

16 If a mammography examination reveals a patient is categorized
17 as having heterogeneously dense breasts or extremely dense breasts,
18 based on the Breast Imaging Reporting and Data System established
19 by the American College of Radiology, the health facility shall
20 include in the summary of the written report that is sent to the
21 patient, as required by federal law, the following notice:

22 ‘Your mammogram shows that your breast tissue is dense.

1 Dense breast tissue is common and is not abnormal. However,
2 dense breast tissue can make it harder to evaluate the results of
3 your mammogram and may also be associated with an
4 increased risk of breast cancer. Your exam was completed using
5 a film-based system. You are advised to consider Digital
6 Mammography as it has been shown to be more effective for
7 the detection of breast cancer in women with dense breasts
8 when compared to mammography using a film-based system.
9 'This information about the results of your mammogram is
10 given to you to raise your awareness and should be discussed
11 with your health care provider. Together, you can decide which
12 screening options are right for you. A report of your results was
13 sent to your physician.' "

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