## ZERO Cost to Prostate Cancer Screening: A Lifesaving Initiative for Californians

## Make prostate cancer screening accessible and affordable statewide.

Cost sharing is an unnecessary barrier to screening for prostate cancer, which is the critical first step for diagnosis. But, it doesn't have to be this way — and it shouldn't. If prostate cancer is detected early, nearly 100% of patients will survive. This legislative proposal is simple – eliminate cost sharing for prostate cancer screening for persons at a high risk of prostate cancer. Similar legislation has already been enacted in New York and Maryland.

## Individuals at a High-Risk for Prostate Cancer Include:



- All persons with a prostate over age 55
- All persons with a prostate over age 40 in a specific high risk category
- African American
- Family history of prostate cancer
- Genetic predisposition to prostate cancer
- Military Veterans

## **Prostate Cancer by the Numbers:**

- In 2021, nearly 26,000 individuals in California will be diagnosed with prostate cancer, making it the second-most diagnosed cancer in the state and the most diagnoses in the entire country.
- Prostate cancer is the fifth-leading cause of cancer-related deaths in California, and has the highest amount of prostate cancer-related deaths in the country.
- In 2021, a man is expected to die from prostate cancer every 15 minutes.
- 250,000 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer this year, and 34,130 men will die from this disease.
- Black men will be diagnosed at a rate almost 80% higher than non-Hispanic white men.
- Black men are more than twice as likely to die because of lack of access to testing and care.
- Prostate cancer rates in the military and veterans are twice that of the general population.

