

HB 2243 -- Missouri Fibromyalgia Awareness Initiative Program

Sponsor: Curls

This bill establishes the Missouri Fibromyalgia Awareness Initiative Program within the Department of Health and Senior Services and requires the department to establish the Missouri Fibromyalgia Panel. The department must provide the program and the panel with necessary administrative services and support. The panel will be comprised of volunteers with knowledge and expertise regarding fibromyalgia research, prevention, educational programs, and consumer needs to guide program development. The panel is required to:

(1) Seek and accept private, federal, or other public financial support, grants, or other appropriate funds to support the program;

(2) Consult with the National Fibromyalgia Association to raise at least \$50,000 through private funding to establish a public information and outreach campaign for issues related to fibromyalgia; and

(3) Work with other state and local agencies to promote fibromyalgia education and training programs for physicians and health professionals.

Health care professionals with prescriptive authority will be allowed to override certain restrictions on medications used to treat fibromyalgia.

The provisions regarding the program and the panel will only be implemented if the panel obtains the required private funding.