

317th Student Assembly,

Senate Bill 317-028

A Bill

To provide a free, comprehensive sexually transmitted infections test to students

The Student Health Act

An Act of the 317th Student Assembly of the College of William and Mary,

Sponsored by Senators Christine Roushdy (JD '10), Jim Dunleavy ('10), Ben Brown ('11),
Imad Matini ('11), and Jill Olszewski ('12)

Supported by Vice President Ryan Ruzic (JD '11)

WHEREAS, according to their respective student health center websites, 7 of the top 10 public universities offer free partial or complete sexually transmitted infection (STI) testing;

WHEREAS, the Student Health Center at William and Mary currently offers STI testing at cost to students;

WHEREAS, approximately 950 STI tests were given to students at the Student Health Center in the last academic year;

WHEREAS, the cost of several of the regular tests are as follows: Chlamydia \$18, Gonorrhea \$18, Syphilis \$10, HIV \$25, a physical exam to rule out herpes or genital warts \$5;

WHEREAS, the Director of the Health Center has stated that this battery of tests represents "the most comprehensive evaluation";

WHEREAS, other tests, such as HPV, cost as much as \$50 and pose a lesser risk than the tests listed above;

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the student body to make these services available to all students, regardless of ability to pay; and

WHEREAS, significant cost reduces responsible and regular testing; and

WHEREAS, this bill would spend 6.75% of the Consolidated Reserve Fund, and said fund currently contains \$192,548.00;

Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Student Assembly of the College of William and Mary-

1. Allocates up to \$13,000.00 from the Consolidated Reserve Fund to fully subsidize student STI testing for HIV, Chlamydia, Gonorrhea, Syphilis, and a physical exam to for Herpes and Genital Warts at the Student Health Center for a period of one academic year;
2. Charges the sponsors of this bill and Executive Department of Health and Safety with the oversight and execution of this allocation;
3. Charges the sponsors of this bill and Executive Department of Health and Safety to lobby the college administration and any alternative funding sources to make STI testing cheaper or free for all students;
4. Charges the sponsors of this bill with introducing a new resolution prior to the Spring 2010 SA General Election to put forward a referendum to the student body asking students if they would support a fee increase to subsidize STI testing in the future should the college administration or alternative funding sources be unwilling or unable to cover the cost of the tests; and
5. Charges the sponsors of this bill and Executive Department of Health and Safety with helping publicize the dates of free HIV testing when available to students.