

May 5, 2022

Representative Terri Sewell 2201 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515-0107

Representative Jodey Arrington 1107 Longworth House Office Building Washington, DC 20515-4319

Representative Raul Ruiz 2342 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515-0536

Representative Richard Hudson 2112 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515-3308 Senator Mike Crapo 239 Dirksen Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Senator Michael Bennet 261 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510"

Senator Tim Scott 104 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Senator Ben Cardin 509 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510-2002

## Re: Essential legislation in our battle against cancer

Dear Representatives Sewell, Arrington, Ruiz, and Hudson, and Senators Bennet, Crapo Cardin, and Scott:

We are writing to convey our support for the Medicare Multi-Cancer Early Detection Screening Coverage Act (S. 1873 and H.R. 1946), due to its enormous potential benefits, both human and economic.

Every day, approximately 1,700 Americans die from cancer. That adds up to more than 600,000 of our friends, neighbors, and loved ones perishing from these diseases each year. It is well known that early detection of cancer saves lives, lowers treatment costs and increases quality of life for patients and their families. In fact, the five-year survival rate is almost 90% when cancer is found in its early stages. Yet we still have so many deaths in the United States stemming from late-stage cancer diagnosis—because until now, we have had only a handful of early detection screening tools.

Today, routine screening is reimbursed for only five types of cancer—breast, cervical, colorectal, prostate, and lung cancer (only in high-risk individuals for lung). That leaves the vast majority of cancers without available screening tests and those cases account for nearly three of every four cancer deaths in the United States each year. The data also show that cancer takes a disproportionate toll on communities of color and rural Americans. The imperative is clear: we must expand our ability to screen for and detect more cancers.

We are encouraged by ongoing clinical trials demonstrating that a groundbreaking new category of cancer screening can detect many deadly cancers in earlier stages. These multi-cancer early detection

(MCED) tests utilize advances in genomic science and computing power to, through a simple blood draw, find cancer before it spreads throughout the body. Peer-reviewed research details the effectiveness of these new technologies and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has granted multiple breakthrough device designations.

As science moves forward, so must health care policy. Currently, Americans most at risk for cancer—Medicare beneficiaries—will face substantial barriers to coverage of multi-cancer early detection tests, even when they are approved by the FDA. Congress has a history of acting to ensure access to cancer screenings, including legislating Medicare coverage of the Pap test, mammography, and colon cancer and prostate cancer screenings, and must act again to ensure seniors don't face unnecessary access barriers to these transformative new early detection tools.

[S. 1873 / H.R. 1946] responds to the misalignment between advances in science and outdated policy by allowing for Medicare coverage of multi-cancer screening. It creates the authority for the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) to evaluate and cover blood-based multi-cancer early detection tests and future test methods (e.g., urine or hair tests), once approved by the FDA.

Under current law, Medicare coverage of preventive services is limited to circumstances in which Congress has explicitly authorized coverage or the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommends the service with a grade of A or B. In the absence of this legislation, it could take several years after FDA approval before Medicare beneficiaries can receive coverage for MCED tests. This bill would greatly reduce any such access delays for seniors while allowing CMS to use its evidence-based process to determine coverage. Accordingly, these new multi-cancer screening tools will complement existing screenings and dramatically improve cancer early detection capabilities.

In 2021, America recognized the 50th anniversary of the enactment of the National Cancer Act, which officially began our nation's War on Cancer. As we enter the next half-century of combat against the diseases that have brought pain and tragedy to generations of Americans, we are on the precipice of a major scientific advance that may be our best chance of dramatically lowering the number of cancer deaths.

We appreciate your leadership on this legislation to ensure that Medicare beneficiaries, and their health care providers, have access to these transformative new early detection tests.

Sincerely,

Prevent Cancer Foundation

1in 9 The Long Island Breast Cancer Action Coalition
A 2nd Act AZ
Above + Beyond Cancer
Academy of Oncology Nurse & Patient Navigators (AONN)
Advocates for Responsible Care (ARxC)
AFL-CIO of Delaware
African American Clergy & Elected Officials (AACEO)
African Ancestry Neuroscience Research Initiative
AIDS Alabama
AIDS Delaware, Inc
AIDS Response Seacoast

Aim, Accelerate Indiana Municipalities

Alabama Cancer Association

Alabama Osteopathic Medical Association

Alabama Regional Medical Services

Alabama Rural Health Association

Alamo Breast Cancer Foundation

Alaska Primary Care Association

Albie Aware Breast Cancer Foundation

AliveAndKickn

Alliance for Aging Research

Alliance for Patient Access

American Arab Chamber of Commerce

American Behcet's Disease Association

American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network

American Life Sciences Innovation Council

American Liver Foundation

American Senior Alliance

Another Brown Face

**Applied Pharmacy Solution** 

Arizona Myeloma Network

**Arkansas Cancer Coalition** 

Arkansas Nurses Association

Arkansas Rural Health Partnership

Association for Clinical Oncology

Association of American Cancer Institutes

Association of Community Cancer Centers

Association of Northern California Oncologists

Association of Oncology Social Work

Atlanta Cancer Care Foundation, Inc.

Autoimmune Association

Avera Health

AZ BIO

Bag It Cancer

**Bay Area Cancer Connections** 

Bella Bowman Foundation

Bella's House

Big Bend Cares / Care Point

Bio Nebraska

BioFlorida, Inc.

BioForward Wisconsin

**BIOOHIO** 

Bioscience Association of West Virginia

Black Chamber of Arizona

Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network

Blue Faery: The Adrienne Wilson Liver Cancer Association

Brain Injury Alliance of Arizona

Brain Injury Alliance of Nebraska

Brain Injury Association of Delaware

Brainxcite

Breast Health Collaborative of Texas

Breathe New Hampshire

Brenda's Brown Bosom Buddies, Inc.

Brookhaven Hospital

California Access Coaition

California Black Health Network (CBHN)

California Chronic Care Coalition

California Colorectal Cancer Coalition

California Health Collaborative

California Hepatitis C Task Force

California Life Sciences Association

California Women's Law Center

Cancer Action Coalition of Virginia

Cancer Advocacy Group of Louisiana

Cancer Care Connection

Cancer Caregivers AZ

Cancer Community Clubhouse

Cancer Lifeline

Cancer Support Community

Cancer Support Community - California Central Coast

Cancer Support Community Arizona

Cancer Support Community Delaware

Cancer Support Community Greater Cincinnati-Northern Kentucky

Cancer Support Community Indiana

Cancer Support Community Ohio

Cancer Support Community SF Bay Area

Cancer Support Community South Bay

Cancer Support Community Southwest Colorado

Cancer Care

Caregiver Action Network

Caring Ambassadors Program, Inc.

Carrie's TOUCH

Cascade AIDS Project

Celma Mastry Ovarian Cancer Foundation

Center for Independence of the Disabled, NY

Centers of Wellness for Urban Women

Charleston Parkinson's Support Group

CHC: Creating Healthier Communities

Children's Cancer Cause

**CHP**community

Christian Council of Delmarva

Chronic Care Collaborative

Chronic Care Policy Alliance

Chronic Disease Coalition

Clarkston Community Health Center Inc.

Coalition of Hematology and Oncology Practices

Coalition of Texans with Disabilities

Coalition of Wisconsin Aging and Health Groups

Colon Cancer Coalition

Colon Cancer Foundation

Colon Cancer Prevention Project

Colon Club

Colorado BioScience Association

Colorado Cancer Coalition

Colorado Gerontological Society

Colorado State Grange

Colorectal Cancer Alliance

Combined Health Agencies Drive of Nebraska

Community Liver Alliance

Community Oncology Alliance (COA)

Community Oncology Alliance Patient Advocacy Network (CPAN)

**CURE Childhood Cancer** 

Debbie's Dream Foundation: Curing Stomach Cancer

Delaware Academy of Medicine / Delaware Public Health Association

Delaware BioScience Association

**Delaware Breast Cancer Coalition** 

Delaware Ecumenical Council on Children and Families

Delaware Pharmacists Society

Delaware State Chamber of Commerce

Easterseals UCP North Carolina & Virginia

ElderHelp of San Diego

Exon 20 Group

Fenway Health

Fibromyalgia Task Force of New York State

Fight Colorectal Cancer

Filipino Cancer Network of New England Foundation, Inc.

Firefighter Cancer Support Network

Florida Academy of Family Physicians

Florida Breast Cancer Foundation

Florida Chapter of American Academy of Pediatrics, Inc.

Florida Medical Association

Florida Public Health Association

Florida Rural Health Association

Florida Society of Clinical Oncology

Florida State Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

FOR (Friends of Residents in LTC)

FORCE: Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered

Forge Survivorship Center

Friends of Cancer Research

Georgia Bio

Georgia Center for Oncology Research and Education (Georgia CORE)

Georgia Ovarian Cancer Alliance

Georgia Society of Clinical Society

Georgians for a Healthy Future

Gilda's Club Kentuckiana

Gilda's Club New Hampshire

Gilda's Club Chicago

Gilda's Club Kansas City

Gilda's Club Quad Cities

Gilda's Club South Florida

Girls Inc. of the Pacific Northwest

Glenn Brackett, President, New Hampshire AFL-CIO

Global Healthy Living Foundation

Global Liver Institute

GO2 Foundation for Lung Cancer

Good Health Ideas Inc. DBA Colon Cancer Prevention Project

H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute

H.E.A.L.S. of the South

Hang Tough Foundation, Inc.

Hawaii Health & Harm Reduction Center

Head & Neck Cancer Alliance

Health Council of South Florida

Health Resources in Action

HealthHIV

HealthyWomen

Hemophilia Foundation of Greater Florida, Inc

Hep Free Hawaii

Hispanic Health Coalition of Georgia (HCGA)

High Ground Veterans Advocacy

Hispanic Chamber of Commerce of Louisiana

Hispanic Health Network

Hitting Cancer Below the Belt

Hoosier Cancer Research Network

Hope for Stomach Cancer

**HOPE Network** 

ICNA Relief USA

Idaho Academy of Family Physicians

Idaho Center for Nursing

Idaho Medical Association

Idaho Senior Living Council

Idaho Society of Clinical Oncology

Idaho Technology Council

Impact NW

Indiana Assisted Living Association

Indiana Cancer Consortium

Indiana Health Industry Forum

Indiana Hospice and Palliative Care Organization

Indiana Oncology Society

Indiana State Grange

Indiana State Nurses Association

Institute for eHealth Equity

International Association of Fire Fighters

International Association of Hepatitis Task Forces

International Cancer Advocacy Network (ICAN)

International Myeloma Foundation

Iowa Biotechnology Association

Iowa Medical Society

Iowa Primary Care Association

Iowa State Grange

It's The Journey

Jewish Family Services of Delaware

John and Junes Mission, Inc.

JustUs Health

Kansas Society of Clinical Oncology

Kay Yow Cancer Fund

Kelli Leigh Richmond Ovarian Cancer Foundation

Kentucky Access to Care Coalition

Kentucky CancerLink

Kentucky Life Science Council

KidneyCAN

Korean Women's Association (KWA)

Kentucky Prostate Cancer Alliance

La Maestra Family Clinic, Inc

Ladies Leukemia League

Las Vegas HEALS

Latino Commission on AIDS

Laura Crandall Brown Foundation

Lazarex Cancer Foundation

LeadingAge Indiana

Liver Coalition of San Diego

Looms for Lupus

Louisiana BIO

Louisiana Hemophilia Foundation

Louisiana Oncology Society

Lumber River United Way

Lungevity

Lupus and Allied Diseases Association, Inc.

Lupus Foundation New England

Lupus Foundation of Southern California

Male Breast Cancer Coalition

Maryland Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Maryland Rural Health Association

Maryland State Grange

Massachusetts Biotechnology Council

Meals on Wheels North Carolina

Meals on Wheels Wake County

Medical Alley

Medical Oncology Association of Southern California (MOASC)

Melanoma Research Foundation

Men's Health Network

METAvivor Research and Support, Inc.

Metropolitan Milwaukee Association of Commerce

Michelle's Place Cancer Resource Center

Michigan Beer & Wine Wholesalers Association

Michigan Biosciences Industry Association (MichBio)

Michigan Building and Construction Trades Council

Michigan Council for Maternal and Child Health

Michigan Osteopathic Association

Michigan Society of Hematology and Oncology

Minneapolis Regional Chamber

Minnesota Pharmacists Association

Minnesota Rural Health Association

Mississippi Center for Justice

Mississippi Health Alliance

Mississippi Oncology Society

Mississippi Rural Health Association

Missouri Cures

Missouri Oncology Society

Montana BioScience Alliance

Montana State Oncology Society

Mountain Empire Older Citizens, Inc.

MS Public Health Association

Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation

Multiple Sclerosis Foundation Inc.

National Aging in Place Council

National Alliance for Hispanic Health

National Association of Hispanic Nurses Houston Chapter

National Association of Nutrition and Aging Services Programs

National Association of Social Workers - Texas Chapter

National Association of Social Workers North Carolina

National Black Nurses Association

National Caucus & Center on Black Aging

National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship

National Consumers League

National Grange

National Kidney Foundation

National Minority Quality Forum

National Oncology State Network (NOSN)

National Pancreas Foundation

National Patient Advocate Foundation

National Scleroderma Foundation Rocky Mountain Chapter

Nebraska AIDS Project

Nebraska Cancer Coalition

Nebraska Rural Health Association

Nebraska State Grange

Nevada Association of Public Safety Officers

Nevada Cancer Coalition

Nevada Chronic Care Collaborative

Nevada Oncology Society (NOS)

New England Rural Health Association

New Generations Adult Day Centers

New Jersey State Grange

New Mexico Biotechnology & Biomedical Association

New York State Grange

New Hampshire Nurses Association

New Hampshire State Grange

Norma Livingston Ovarian Cancer Foundation

North Carolina AIDS Action Network

North Carolina Biosciences Organization

North Carolina Psychological Association

North Carolina State Grange

North Dakota Nurses Association

Northeast Kidney Foundation

Ohio Hematology Oncology Society

Oklahoma BioScience Association

Oklahoma Nurses Association

Oklahoma Society of Clinical Oncology, Inc.

Old North State Medical Foundation

Oncology Managers of Florida

**Oncology Nursing Society** 

Oregon Latino Health Coalition

Oregon League of Minority Voters

Ovarian Cancer Alliance of Oregon and Southwest Washington

Pancreatic Cancer Action Network Alabama

Pancreatic Cancer Action Network

Patient Advocates United in San Diego County

Patient Empowerment Network

Pennsylvania State Grange

Pink-4-Ever Ending Disparities

Plumbers, Pipefitters & Service Technicians Local 525

Pontchartrain Cancer Center

Potomac Grange

Prostate Conditions Education Council

Prostate Health Education Network

Prostate Network

Raleigh Chamber of Commerce

Rare New England

Regarding Cancer

Regional Medical Center of Orangeburg & Calhoun Counties

Retired Public Employees of Nevada

Rich Mauti Cancer Fund

Rio Grande Valley Partnership

Rural Health Medical Program, Inc.

Rush to Live Org

Rx in Reach GA Coalition

Sacramento Black Chamber of Commerce

Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce

San Francisco Women's Cancer Network

Sanford Health

**SCBIO** 

Scleroderma Foundation

**Serving Seniors** 

Sister's Network

Sjögren's Foundation

Society of Utah Medical Oncologists (SUMO)

South Carolina Cancer Alliance

South Carolina Legislative Black Caucus

South Dakota Biotech

South Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce

Southeast Wisconsin Oncology Nursing Society

Southwest Florida Cancer Control Collaborative

Stand Up To Cancer

State Grange of Minnesota

Suicide Awareness Voices of Education

**SURVIVEiT** 

Survivors CAN!

Susan G. Komen

Teen Cancer America

Texas Healthcare and Bioscience Institute

Texas Rare Alliance

Texas Rural Health Association

The Cancer Challenge

The Capitol Grange

The Hepatitis C Mentor and Support Group-HCMSG

The Kim Foundation

The Max Foundation

The Wall Las Memorias Project

Tivity Health

Touro University Nevada

Triage Cancer

Twisted Pink

Tyanna Barre O'Brien Breast Cancer Foundation

UCS Healthcare

Ulman Cancer Foundation

United for Charitable Assistance

United Partners for Human Services

University of South Florida, College of Public Health, Florida Prevention Research Center

Urban League of Portland

Us TOO International

Valley Health System

Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center

Vasculitis Foundation

Ventura County Hematology Oncology Specialists

Vets Place Northwest – Welcome Home

Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA)

Virginia Breast Cancer Foundation

Visiting Nurse Association

Washington Student Cancer Awareness Association

Watchful Eye

West Central Georgia Cancer Coalition

Western States Cancer Research NCORP

Wisconsin Association of Hematology and Oncology (WAHO)

Wisconsin Breast Cancer Coalition

Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce

Wisconsin Nurses Association

Wisconsin State Grange

Women's Institute for Secure Retirement

Wyoming Health Fairs

Wyoming Nurses Association

Wyoming State Oncology Society

You Night Events

ZERO - The End of Prostate Cancer