CANCER LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

A PATIENT-CENTERED FORUM OF NATIONAL ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS
ADDRESSING PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES IN CANCER

Cancer Advocates Express Alarm That Senate-Passed Budget Bill Threatens Health Care for Millions of Americans

July 2, 2025. – Washington, D.C. – The undersigned cancer organizations, representing cancer patients, health care professionals, researchers, family members, and caregivers, issued the following statement expressing serious concerns regarding Senate passage of HR 1, the budget reconciliation package. This bill will have devastating effects on Americans' access to health insurance coverage and access to quality health care.

"The Senate-passed version of HR 1, the budget reconciliation package, will threaten the ability of millions of Americans to obtain health care without bankrupting their families. Cancer patients who rely on Medicaid and the Affordable Care Act (ACA) will be among those hardest hit, as they attempt to navigate difficult and expensive treatment while at risk of loss of their insurance coverage.

"The Senate bill would terminate health insurance coverage for an estimated 17 million people through deep cuts to Medicaid and dramatic changes to key provisions of the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

"Medicaid cuts will cause low-income adults, children, seniors, and people with serious and chronic illnesses to lose coverage. Changes to the ACA marketplaces, including eliminating automatic re-enrollment and enrollment flexibilities, combined with the loss of advance premium tax credits, will cause many to lose their affordable ACA coverage.

"The damage does not stop there. Hospitals, physician practices, and other health care entities will be at financial risk as the result of lost reimbursement and uncompensated care burdens, with some facing closure. Americans of all communities – but especially those in rural areas -- and all walks of life will suffer from health care providers closing their doors.

"People with cancer and others with serious illnesses are often food insecure during treatment and rely temporarily on food assistance. The Senate bill also makes changes to SNAP that will adversely affect people with cancer.

"Instead of building on progress of the last decade in reducing the number of uninsured Americans and improving access to quality care, the Senate has passed a bill that attempts to divide us, calling some deserving of care and others not. We are instead standing in support of policies that protect access to quality and affordable health care."

Cancer Leadership Council

Academy of Oncology Nurse & Patient Navigators (AONN+)
Cancer Nation (formerly National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship)
Children's Cancer Cause
Fight Colorectal Cancer
LUNGevity Foundation
Lymphoma Research Foundation
National Comprehensive Cancer Network