



# 2020 South Dakota Legislative Priorities

Victory in the fight against cancer requires bold new public policies that promote cancer prevention, early detection of cancer, and expand access to quality, affordable health care. Lawmakers make many decisions that impact the lives of South Dakotans touched by cancer and their leadership is vital to defeating this disease. In 2020, the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) will work with the South Dakota Legislature in support of the following priorities:

## Reducing the Toll of Tobacco

- **Tobacco 21:** ACS CAN will support measures that increase the age of sale for all tobacco products to 21 that implement measures that enable active enforcement such as retailer licensing and penalties, including license suspension and revocation without creating new categories of products which exempt certain products from tobacco control laws and without penalizing youth.
- **Smoke-free Air:** Protect comprehensive smoke-free policies that include all restaurants, bars, casinos, and non-hospitality workplaces at the state and local level. ACS CAN will also work to defend existing comprehensive laws and expand laws that are not comprehensive.
- **Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Funding:** ACS CAN will work to fund and sustain evidence-based, statewide tobacco use prevention and cessation programs.
- **Tobacco Taxes:** ACS CAN will advocate to increase the cigarette tax by \$1.00 per pack with an increase in the tax on other tobacco products to parallel the new rate. Increasing the price of cigarettes and all other tobacco products through regular and significant tobacco tax increases helps to keep kids from starting to use tobacco and helps adults quit. \$20 million of the revenues from the tobacco taxes should be used to fully fund and sustain evidence-based, statewide tobacco use prevention and cessation programs.

## Cancer Prevention and Early Detection

- **Breast and Cervical Cancer:** ACS CAN will advocate to increase funding for All Women Count!, the state breast and cervical cancer screening program for low-income uninsured and underinsured women administered by the South Dakota Department of Health.
- **Colorectal Cancer:** ACS CAN will work to establish funding for colorectal cancer screening, treatment, and patient navigation programs.

## Quality of Life

- **Protecting Access to Pain Medication for Cancer Patients:** ACS CAN will monitor legislative proposals regarding the prescribing of opioid pain medications and advocate for a balanced approach that promotes safe prescribing and dispensing of pain management medication that does not interfere with access to these medicines for the cancer patients and survivors who need them.

## Ensuring Access to Quality Care

- **Medicaid Expansion:** ACS CAN will advocate for low-income individuals and families to have access to health care coverage through state Medicaid programs. We will support policies that preserve access to Medicaid for low-income parents and adults and will advocate for Medicaid expansion in states that have not increased eligibility up to 138 percent of the federal poverty level.

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ACS CAN, the nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy affiliate of the American Cancer Society, supports evidence-based policy and legislative solutions designed to eliminate cancer as a major health problem. ACS CAN works to encourage elected officials and candidates to make cancer a top priority. ACS CAN gives ordinary people extraordinary power to fight cancer with the training and tools they need to make their voices heard.

American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network • [fightcancer.org/states/south-dakota](https://fightcancer.org/states/south-dakota)