

2024 OHIO 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 Ohio residents impacted by cancer and their leadership is vital to defeating this disease. In 2024 the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) will work with the Ohio General Assembly on legislative and regulatory efforts that provide affordable, adequate access to health insurance, including Medicaid, and enact prevention policies to protect kids from tobacco products and help support those who are trying to quit. We will be making the following fact-based policies a priority and ask for your support:

Ensuring Access to Quality Care

Access to Biomarker Testing: ACS CAN will advocate for improved coverage of comprehensive biomarker testing. Progress in improving cancer outcomes increasingly involves the use of precision medicine, which uses information about a person's own genes or proteins to better diagnose and treat diseases like cancer. Biomarker testing is an important step to accessing precision medicine which includes targeted therapies that can lead to improved survivorship and better quality of life for cancer patients, but insurance coverage for biomarker testing is failing to keep pace with innovations and advancements in treatment.

Prescription Drug Affordability: Many Ohioans face high out-of-pocket costs for their prescription drugs and copay assistance programs are critical to helping patients access the therapies they need. ACS CAN supports legislation that restricts the use of so-called copay accumulator adjustments in health insurance plans. We will advocate for policies that ensure third party prescription drug copay assistance is counted toward patients' out-of-pocket cost obligations.

Local Control

ACS CAN supports the authority of local governments to pass local policies that go beyond state laws to help families be healthy, safe and secure. Policymaking at the local level allows innovation and creative problem solving that builds on local strengths and addresses local needs. ACS CAN works at the local, state and federal levels to ensure everyone has a fair and just opportunity to prevent, fight and survive cancer. ACS CAN will oppose legislation that restricts the freedom of local leaders to best serve their communities.

2024 OHIO CANCER FACTS

76,280 OHIOANS WILL BE
NEWLY DIAGNOSED WITH
CANCER IN 2023

24,810 OHIOANS
ESTIMATED TO DIE FROM
CANCER THIS YEAR

BREAST CANCER IS THE
LEADING CANCER FOR
WOMEN IN OHIO

OHIO'S ADULT SMOKING
RATE IS 17% AND HIGHER
THAN THE NATIONAL
AVERAGE

PROSTATE CANCER IS THE
LEADING CANCER FOR MEN
IN OHIO

OHIO HAS THE 9TH
HIGHEST CANCER
INCIDENCE RATE IN THE
NATION

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