

ACS CAN Pennsylvania Cancer Action Day

TUESDAY, MAY 13, 2025

What we'll cover today

- **Agenda: Timeline of Events**
- **2** Legislative Overview + Our Asks
- **3** Meeting with Your Lawmakers
- **4** Social Media
- **5** Reminders for Cancer Action Day







Where, When, How

When: Day of Timeline

8:00 AM Registration and Networking Main Rotunda

9:00 AM - End Lawmaker/Advocate Meetings Capitol Building - Locations vary FYI: dress is business casual! You'll pick up your blue ACS CAN shirt (if you don't already have one) at the registration table

11:00 AM Press Conference ***Your lawmaker meetings take priority. *Capitol Steps - Main Rotunda*

11:30 AM Group photo ***Your lawmaker meetings take priority. *Capitol Steps - Main Rotunda*

Meals are on your own

You will be provided with vouchers for breakfast/snack and lunch to be used at the cafeteria around your lawmaker meeting schedule.



How: Navigating the Capitol

Parking

There's an abundance of parking around the Capitol including street parking and lots. We will reimburse for paid parking. A full list is available: <u>http://parkharrisburg.com/garages-and-lots/</u>

Entrances

The public entrances are the East Wing Entrance at the Fountain on Commonwealth Avenue, which is also the most accessible entrance, and the Main Rotunda Entrance at Third and State Streets.

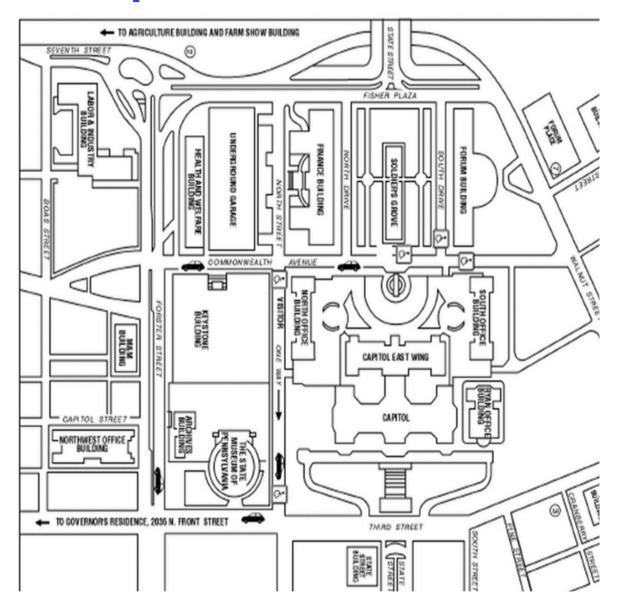
3 Reigstration + Event Hub

Event registration and our event hub open at 8 a.m. in the Main Rotunda of the Capitol Building and will be available throughout the day.



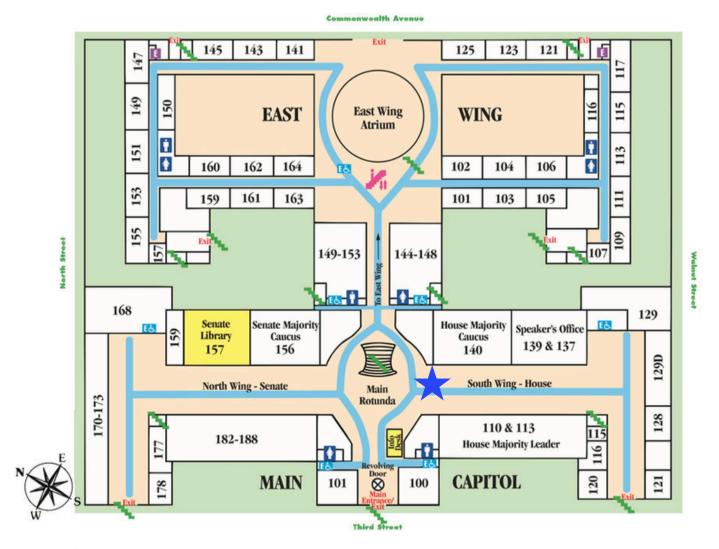


Where: Capitol Grounds





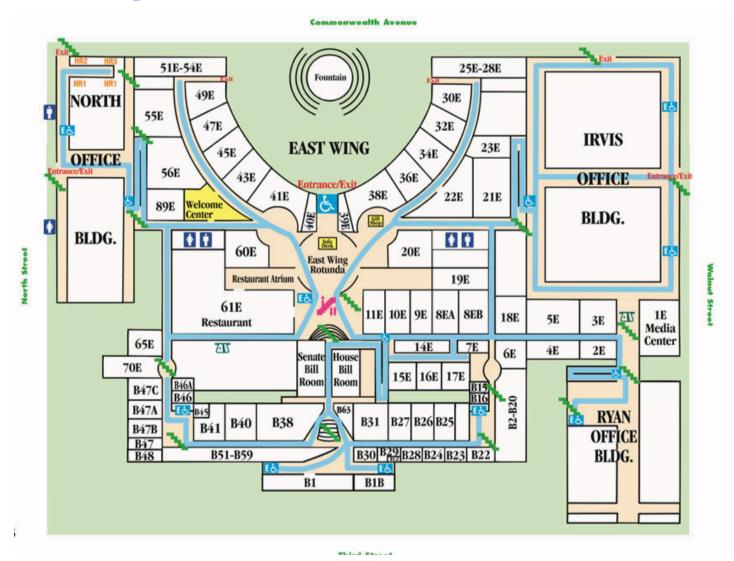
Where: Capitol First Floor + Upper Level East Wing





Our registration/event hub will be around here next to the rotunda

Where: Capitol Basement + Lower Level East Wing



American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network



Scope of our advocacy



Vision: End cancer as we know it, for everyone.

Mission: Improve the lives of people with cancer and their families through advocacy, research, and patient support, to ensure everyone has an opportunity to prevent, detect, treat, and survive cancer.



What we advocate for

Access to Care



Accelerating Cures



Prevention, including Tobacco Control



Eliminating Disparities + Building Health Equity $\, {\bigtriangleup} \,$





Advocacy works!

Public policy is an extremely powerful tool in the fight against cancer.



Volunteer Engagement



ACS CAN volunteers have sent

4 MILLION

messages to lawmakers to fight for cancer legislation

Research & Innovation

<u>OneDegree Campaign</u>

120K petition signatures to increase cancer research funding

- 26M social media impressions
- +\$6 billion NIH funding
- +\$1 billion NCI funding

Tobacco Control

61.1%

of U.S. opulation covered by comprehensive smoke-free laws

UP from <u>2.6</u>% in 2001

Reducing exposure to secondhandsmoke

Equitable Access to Care

Affordable Care Act

20M

Millions of

lives saved!

nonelderly people gained coverage through ACA

parents and adults gained coverage through medicaid expansion ***as of July 2021**

13M*



2024 Legislative Wins

Biomarker Testing

Funding for Key Prevention Programs

Expanded access to biomarker testing leading to targeted treatment

Continue to prevent young people from starting to use tobacco Over 32k women will continue to access breast + cervical cancer screenings



...And volunteers make all the difference

















Legislative Priorities for May 13th

National landscape

House Members Must Stand up for Cancer Patients and Their Families by Protecting Medicaid from Cuts in Latest Budget Proposal

April 9, 2025

Significant HHS Workforce Reduction and Restructuring Threaten the Nation's Fight Against Cancer

DRASTIC STAFF CUTS AND CHANGES IN KEY FEDERAL AGENCIES COULD DISRUPT OPERATIONS AND JEOPARDIZE PROGRAMS THAT TOUCH ALL POINTS OF THE CANCER CONTINUUM, FROM PREVENTION TO DETECTION, TO DRUG DEVELOPMENT, TREATMENT AND SURVIVORSHIP.

March 27, 2025

UPDATED: Executive Actions Cause Confusion and Concern for Potential Impact on Cancer Research

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network issues a statement about President Trump's recent executive orders.

February 3, 2025 - By American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network

ACS CAN Calls on Congress to Reject Cuts; Draft Full Appropriations Bills That Include Increases to Protect Cancer Patients

THE FOLLOWING IS A STATEMENT FROM LISA LACASSE, PRESIDENT OF THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY CANCER ACTION NETWORK (ACS CAN)

March 10, 2025



2025 Legislative Priorities

Paid Family +	Prostate Cancer	Breast Cancer	Funding Prevention
Medical Leave	Screening	Diagnostic Imaging	Programs
No risk of	Remove	Remove barriers	Over 32k women
losing a job or	barriers to	to access	will continue to
missing a	prostate	diagnostic and	access breast +
paycheck due	cancer	supplemental	cervical cancer
to treatment	screenings	imaging	screenings
HB 200	HB 281	HB 433	Continue to prevent young people from starting to use tobacco



Issue Overview: Paid Family and Medical Leave

- About 62%, or 4 million workers in PA do not have access to paid family leave through their jobs, which means they may have to make impossible choices between work and caring for themselves or their family.
- 90,240 Pennsylvanians will be diagnosed with cancer in 2025. Cancer treatment is time consuming, often requiring time off from work for doctor's visits, surgery, chemotherapy/radiation, and recovery.
- This is a health equity issue biggest impact on lower income households, those with lower levels of education, younger, and those working in smaller companies without existing flexibility or resources to take unpaid leave.
- Access to paid family and medical leave contributes to positive outcomes such as being able to complete treatment, manage symptoms, and afford treatment. It also contributes to employee retention and morale. This makes an important difference for patients, survivors, and their caregivers – and employers.



Issue Overview: Paid Family and Medical Leave

House Ask: Will you pass House Bill 200 on third consideration to establish a Paid Family and Medical Leave program and ensure that no one has to risk employment to care for themselves or a loved one?

Senate Ask: Will you **sign on as a cosponsors and support Senate Bill XX** to establish a Paid Family and Medical Leave program and ensure that no one has to risk employment to care for themselves or a loved one?



Issue Overview: Increase Access to Prostate Cancer Screenings

- In 2025, an estimated 13,400 Pennsylvanians will be diagnosed with prostate cancer and 1,480 will die from the disease
 - Early detection is critical for effective treatment there is a 99% survival rate for early state diagnosis, compared to 29% for late stage.
 - Yet, screening rates are decreasing, with only 33% of Pennsylvanian men 50+ up to date on their screening.
 - Prostate cancer is often asymptomatic until metastatic. Screening helps detect the disease early when it's most treatable and survivable.

Prostate cancer does not impact all men equally

- A combination of factors can contribute to an individuals being at high-risk, including age, personal and family health history, and/or Black or African ancestry.
- Cost barriers have a direct effect on cancer care: high costs can lead to delayed detection and lower survival rates
 - Cost-sharing drives men to forgo needed cancer screenings, annual exams, and visits to the urologist.
 - Improving access to prostate cancer screenings can help ensure that high-risk patients receive an earlier diagnosis, leading to improved treatment options and
 an increased likelihood of survival.



Issue Overview: Increase Access to Prostate Cancer Screenings

House Ask: Will you support House Bill 281 to increase access to prostate cancer screenings by removing cost sharing for high risk individuals?

Senate Ask: Will you **sign on as a cosponsor and support Senate Bill XX** to increase access to prostate cancer screenings by removing cost sharing for high risk individuals?



Issue Overview: Access to Breast Cancer Diagnostic and Supplemental Imaging

- In 2025, an estimated 13,650 Pennsylvanians will be diagnosed with breast cancer and 1,800 will die from the disease
 - Early detection is critical for developing an effective treatment plan and would not be possible without diagnostic follow-up or supplemental imaging following an abnormal screening result.
 - 12% of individuals require additional follow-up imaging after an abnormal mammogram.
- Individuals requiring additional follow up imaging are often faced with hundreds to thousands of dollars in patient cost sharing
 - A recent ACS CAN study found that out-of-pocket cost sharing is estimated to result in 1.1 million women nationwide delaying necessary breast cancer diagnostic testing and imaging in 2024 due to affordability issues.
- Cost barriers have a direct effect on cancer care: high costs can lead to delayed detection.
 - HB 433 would build upon Act 1 of 2023 to expand coverage for high-risk individuals
 - By expanding access of breast cancer diagnostic imaging, we can help ensure that more patients receive an earlier diagnosis, leading to improved treatment options.



Issue Overview: Access to Breast Cancer Screenings for High-Risk Individuals

House Ask: Will you **support House Bill 433** to increase access to breast cancer diagnostic and supplemental imaging by removing patient cost sharing?

Senate Ask: Will **sign on as a cosponsor and Senate Bill XX** to increase access to breast cancer diagnostic and supplemental imaging by removing patient cost sharing?



Issue Overview: Protect Funding for Critical Prevention Programs

- The PA-BCCEDP provides low-income, uninsured, and underinsured women access to breast and cervical cancer screenings and diagnostic services
- From 2018–2023, nearly 32,300 PA women were served by the program.
 Over 416 breast cancers and 719 cervical cancers or precancerous lesions have been detected by the program.
- It is simple, screening saves lives. Cancers that are found at an early stage are easier to treat and lead to greater survival.

- Over 30% of cancer deaths are caused by smoking. Across the state, 14.9% of adults smoke cigarettes and about 20% of high school students use tobacco products.
- Current program funding falls woefully short of the \$140 million recommended by the CDC
- Evidence-based, statewide tobacco control programs have been shown to:
 - reduce tobacco use rates
 - reduce tobacco-related diseases + deaths
 - prevent young people from smoking

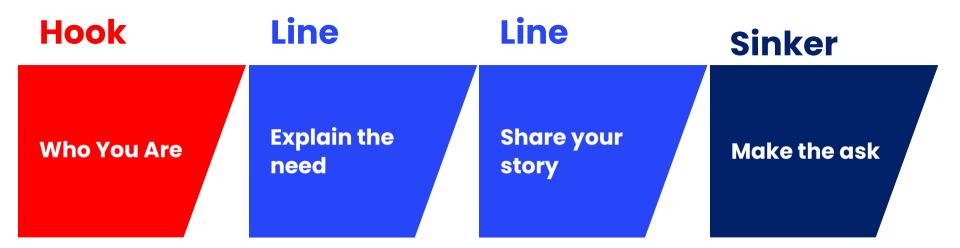
House and Senate Ask: Will you protect funding for these vital cancer prevention programs -- continue funding the Pennsylvania Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program at \$2.563 million and funding the State Tobacco Control Program at the current rate of 4.5% or approximately \$18.4 million?





Lawmaker Meetings

Hook, Line (x2), Sinker





Hook

Introductions

- Meeting leader starts, volunteers from ACS CAN
- Go around to all constituents, quick intros



Who you are, where you're from

• State your neighborhood rather than city (esp. for Senate meetings)



Line

Explain the need:

- What is the purpose of the meeting, what issues will be covered
- Why do we need these specific policies?

Tell your personal story:

- Connect your story to one of the ASKS
- What impact would this policy have made for you/someone you know?
- What impact will it have for our state?





Make the ASKS

- Refer to language provided

 will vary depending on whether your lawmaker is a cosponsor already (thank you)

 Go through each policy ask

Secure a response from the lawmaker

• We are looking for a clear indication of support

Thank them for their time and support





Crafting your personal story

Your connection to cancer / your WHY



- What affect would Paid Family + Medical Leave have had on your care or care for your family/friends?
- Have you benefited from prostate cancer screenings or breast cancer imaging?
 - If you are high risk for prostate or breast cancer, did you face any barriers to screenings?

What impact will it have for our state?



Group Meeting Logistics

Due to the size of our Senate districts, most meetings will have 3+ constituents present -- which means it is important to split up the ASKS.

Prep before the meeting

 Lydia will reach out to everyone in the meeting to connect you with one another so you have time to prepare

Determining who shares

- It is important to highlight individuals that have a connection to the asks
- In order to keep things organized, and to maximize time, there will be no more than four speakers

Breaking up the asks

- There are three policy asks, so each person will be responsible for making one ask
 - Connect to your personal story
 - Be precise, keep story to to 1-2 minutes





Meeting "script"

We are here to discuss and ask for your support on three items: access to prostate cancer screenings; Paid Family and Medical Leave; coverage of breast cancer diagnostic and supplemental imaging

Line

This year, Pennsylvania is expected to see 90,240 new cases of cancer. With this in mind, we are working hard to ensure that every resident has the ability to detect, treat, and survive cancer. This starts with supporting key policies and budget items to ensure equitable access to prevention programs and life-saving treatment, as well as helping all Pennsylvanians cover the cost of care through paid family and medical leave and wiping out medical debt.

This is especially important to me because (share your personal story and connect it to the importance of [paid family leave/early detection and imaging].

With this in mind, we are asking for your support of three life-saving policies:

- 1. Will you *pass House Bill 200 on third consideration/support Senate Bill XX* to establish a Paid Family and Medical Leave program and ensure that no one has to risk employment to care for themselves or a loved one?
- 2. Will you support House Bill 281/sign on as a cosponsor of Senate Bill XX to increase access to prostate cancer screenings by removing cost sharing for high risk individuals?
 3. Will you support House Bill 433/Senate Bill XX to increase access to breast cancer diagnostic imaging by removing patient cost sharing?

<u>Meeting conclusion</u>: Before we go, we want to lift up our annual budget asks. Can we count on you protect vital cancer prevention programs that so many Pennsylvanians rely on – specifically, continue funding the Pennsylvania Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program at \$2.563 million and funding the Tobacco Control Program at the current rate of 4.5% or approximately \$18.4 million.



Sinker

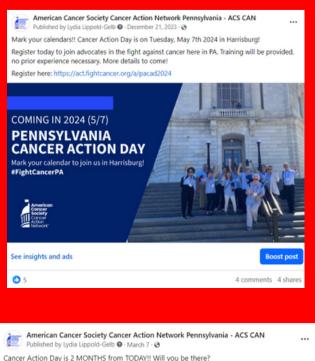
Report Back

We want to know how your meeting went and any lawmaker that would like more information -- so after your meeting, complete the report back form (QR code provided in materials)

- Complete one report for each lawmaker/staff you interact with
 Include their full name
- Please be as specific as possible, where does the lawmaker/staff stand on each ask
- Details on the report back form:
 - For Issue, please select all that apply -- Access and Tobacco
 - For "Type of Action" please select all that apply, including "office meeting with lawmaker" for any meetings you had in-person.



Let's Takeover Social Media



Sign up now to make your voice heard and help end cancer as we know it for all Pennsylvanians!

- @ACSCANPA
- Tag your specific lawmaker
- #PACAD2025
- #FightCancerPA
- Share your experience & the Ask
 - Include photos
- Don't forget to engage with others





Reminders

Logistics Reminder:



- Date: Tuesday, May 13th
- Time to Arrive: Between 8am and 9am
- **Parking:** Street and lots located around the Capitol
- Entrance Locations:
 - Main Rotunda at Third + State Streets
 - East Wing Entrance at the Fountain on Commonwealth Ave - ADA
- Meeting Location: Main rotunda of the Capitol building
- What to wear:
 - You will be given a ACS CAN shirt
 - Long sleeve underneath, optional
 - Business casual
 - Good walking shoes



Reminder to:



- Meet with your team and practice
 - Lydia will reach out to connect each group
 - Make a plan so everyone knows how they will be contributing

• Research your lawmakers

- What committees do they sit on?
- What is their social media handle
- Visit: <u>https://www.legis.state.pa.us/</u>
- Your story is your strongest tool when advocating and no one knows it better than you
- Have FUN!









Thank You

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