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April 7, 2025

The Hon. Jean Schmidt
Chair
House Health Committee
Ohio House of Representatives
Columbus, Ohio 42315

To Chair Schmidt:

On behalf of Fight Colorectal Cancer, a national patient advocacy organization dedicated to the colorectal cancer community, we appreciate the opportunity to share our support for [House Bill 8](#), sponsored by Hon. Representative Andrea White (District 36). We thank the Representative for her work and focus on expanding access and coverage of biomarker testing options for Ohioans. We thank the House Health Committee for consideration of this legislation, allowing public testimony and this letter of support to be submitted.

As the committee may be aware, colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death for men and women combined. Colorectal cancer is also increasing in young people. It is the number one cause of cancer death for men under the age of 50 and number two for women under age 50. According to the [American Cancer Society](#), in 2025, it is estimated that 5,760 Ohioans will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer and 1,960 will die from the disease.

Biomarker testing is an important diagnostic tool for colorectal cancer patients that provides valuable insights to patients and their clinician to inform the best and most effective course of treatment. Ensuring that biomarker testing is a covered benefit will benefit all Ohioans, especially those who may be susceptible to or predisposed to colorectal cancer.

We believe that Ohioans will benefit from expanding access to biomarker testing. Fight Colorectal Cancer supports [House Bill 8](#). Thank you for your commitment to this issue and we look forward to seeing this important legislation move forward.

Sincerely,

Shahryar M. Baig
State Policy Manager
Fight Colorectal Cancer

CC:

Hon. Kellie Deeter (District 54), Health Committee Vice Chair
Hon. Ani Somani (District 8), Health Committee Ranking Member
Hon. Representative Andrea White (District 36)