

May 6, 2025

Hon. Brian Lampton
Chair, Insurance Committee

Hon. Desiree Tims, J.D.
Ranking-Member, Insurance Committee

RE: Support for HB 33

Dear Chair Lampton and Ranking-member Tims –

On behalf of the American Urological Association, Inc. (AUA), and the Ohio Urological Society (OUS), we are writing to express our support for HB 33 which would require all group, blanket, and individual health insurance policies to cover prostate screening for men over the age of 40 who are at high risk for prostate cancer - with high risk for prostate cancer meaning African American men or those with a family history of prostate cancer.

The AUA is a globally engaged organization with more than 22,000 physicians, physician assistants, and advanced practice nursing members practicing in more than 100 countries. Our members represent the world's largest collection of expertise and insight into the treatment of urologic disease. Of the total AUA membership, more than 15,000 are based in the United States and provide invaluable support to the urologic community by fostering the highest standards of urologic care through education, research, and the formulation of health policy. The OUS is the primary statewide professional organization dedicated to the practice of urology for Ohio physicians. Representing more than 200 members, the OUS is dedicated to encouraging the highest quality of urologic care.

Our organizations are dedicated to improving access to quality, affordable, and equitable healthcare. As such, we are frustrated by disparities in healthcare impacting underserved and vulnerable populations in Ohio - putting them disproportionately at increased risk - and we applaud the Committee's efforts in putting forward and fairly considering this legislation.

- Prostate cancer is the second-leading cause of cancer deaths among men in the United States and a significant healthcare problem due to its high incidence. Although one in eight men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer in their lifetime, the odds increase to one in six if they are African American, and one in three if they have a family history. The American Cancer Society projects 10,820 new cases of prostate cancer and 1,160 estimated deaths from prostate cancer in Ohio in 2025.¹
- The incidence of prostate cancer is almost 80 percent higher in African American men, who have a two-fold higher rate of prostate cancer mortality relative to men of other races. African American men are diagnosed with more aggressive disease, at younger ages, and at higher incidence compared to white men in settings of equal access to treatment.
- This racial disparity in mortality is currently the worst among all cancers in the United States. To eliminate disparities in prostate cancer we must eliminate the barriers for

1. Cancer Facts & Figures 2025, American Cancer Society, [Prostate Cancer](#)

screening to maximize the early detection of cancer when it is at its most treatable and least lethal stage.

- The clinical value of prostate cancer screening has been scientifically validated and endorsed by the AUA, American Cancer Society, National Comprehensive Cancer Network, American Society of Clinical Oncology, and American College of Physicians-American Society of Internal Medicine. It is a necessary step to diagnose prostate cancer and part of a larger conversation between patient and provider about prostate cancer risk.
- Late-stage prostate cancers place an increased economic burden on the health care system, including lost worker productivity and increased financial burdens for patients and their caregivers.

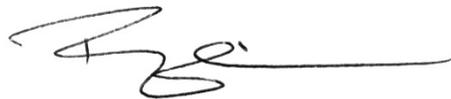
Similar legislation to what is before the Committee was passed in New York (SB 6882, 2018), Maryland (SB 661, 2020), Illinois (HB 5318, 2022), Tennessee (HB 2954, 2024), and Virginia (HB 2097, 2025) which eliminates out-of-pocket expenses for high-risk patients while also protecting them from discrimination and preserving their access to necessary, and often, life-saving screening. We hope that Ohio will be the next state to lead our nation in addressing this health disparity and protecting the health welfare of its male citizens.

Please consider this the AUA's and OUS's endorsement of HB 33, and we hope that the Committee advances the bill for consideration by the entire House.

Respectfully
Sincerely,



Brian Duty, MD, MBA
Chair, State Advocacy Committee
American Urological Association



Bradley C Gill, MD, MS
President
Ohio Urological Society