

Dear Chair Lampton, Vice Chair Craig, and Members of the House Insurance Committee:

According to an ACS CAN 2024 survey, the most important health care issue for Ohioans is addressing health insurance out-of-pocket costs, with 84% of Ohioans considering covering physician recommended screenings a high priority, and 80% of Ohioans considering lowering out-of-pocket costs a high priority.

Total out of pocket costs for prostate cancer were \$2.26 billion in 2019 according to NIH, and in 2020, the estimated U.S. annual prostate cancer treatment costs were \$22.3 billion, according to the National Cancer Institute.

The first empirical estimates of how health insurance benefit mandates affect out-of-pocket costs found that mandates significantly reduce out-of-pocket spending, and that inexpensive items, such as the \$33 dollar PSA test, would have a minimal impact on costs.

These findings echo similar findings from state fiscal notes on bills similar to HB 33, which also finds an insignificant impact on premiums, state budgets, or costs.

Please make passing HB 33 a priority this session.

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