



April 1, 2025

Senator Steve Wilson, Chair  
Senate Financial Institutions, Insurance and Technology Committee  
One Capitol Square, Room 222  
Columbus, Ohio 43215

Dear Chair Wilson and Members of the Committee,

The Ohio Hematology Oncology Society (OHOS) and the Association for Clinical Oncology (ASCO) write to express concern with **SB 100**, a bill that would allow qualified membership organizations, such as the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation, to offer their employees and beneficiaries health insurance not compliant with the Affordable Care Act's essential health benefits. All persons should have access to comprehensive health insurance; we are particularly focused on ensuring that patients with cancer have access to high-quality cancer care coverage in Ohio.

OHOS represents over 200 physicians specializing in the practice of Hematology and Oncology (blood disorders and cancer). OHOS is committed to promoting excellence in the care of patients afflicted with cancer and hematologic disorders in Ohio. ASCO is an organization representing physicians who care for people with cancer. With over 50,000 members, our core mission is to ensure that cancer patients have meaningful access to high-quality cancer care.

The American Society of Clinical Oncology, our affiliate organization, released [Principles for Patient-Centered Health Care Reform](#), which include recommendations designed to ensure access to high-quality cancer care amid the changing U.S. healthcare delivery landscape. SB 100 opens the door for the possibility of new insurance products that would violate many of these principles. We call your attention to ASCO's framework for ensuring quality cancer care delivery, including:

- All Americans should have access to affordable and sufficient healthcare coverage regardless of their income or health status. To ensure protected access, the current ban on pre-existing condition limitations, elimination of annual and lifetime coverage caps, and maintenance of guaranteed renewability should be preserved.
- Any efforts to reform the healthcare system at the national, state, or local levels should ensure that individuals with health insurance can continue to access affordable insurance without interruption.
- All individuals with cancer should have health insurance that guarantees access to high-quality cancer care that is delivered by a cancer specialist and that provides the full range of services needed by patients with cancer a timely manner.

Policymakers should, in any policy changes, promote and protect cancer prevention and screening services, as they are key to reducing cancer mortality. SB 100 would potentially leave many cancer patients without meaningful coverage in Ohio. It would allow for the expanded sale of plans that do not have the crucial essential health benefits protecting patients with cancer. Specifically, these plans put individuals with cancer at risk for denial of coverage due to pre-existing condition limitations and often lack coverage for evidence-based cancer screenings. We are united in the opinion that increasing proliferation of inadequate health care plans could pose a major barrier to receiving appropriate and timely treatment. Many consumers may be unaware that the plan they are buying does not have the full protections available to them under the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

We urge you to prohibit these types of plans in Ohio as they are not a substitute for quality health insurance. We offer ourselves as a resource moving forward to help ensure all Ohioans have access to cancer treatments. If you have any questions or would like assistance on any issue involving the care of individuals with cancer, please contact Matt Whitehead, representing OHOS, at [mwhitehead@gpgrhr.com](mailto:mwhitehead@gpgrhr.com) or Jennifer Brunelle at [Jennifer.Brunelle@asco.org](mailto:Jennifer.Brunelle@asco.org).

Sincerely,



Slobodan Stanistic, MD  
President  
Ohio Hematology Oncology Society



Eric P. Winer, MD, FASCO  
Chair of the Board  
Association for Clinical Oncology