



American Cancer Society
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**Written Testimony Regarding HB 285
Ohio Senate Health and Human Services Committee
November 29, 2016**

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) thanks you for the opportunity to provide testimony on HB 285. ACS CAN supports efforts to allow pharmacists to refill non-controlled drug prescriptions up to a 90-day supply.

ACS CAN is working to ensure that cancer patients have access to all medically necessary and appropriate drugs. Approximately 66,020 Ohioans are expected to be diagnosed with cancer this year and 25,510 will die from the disease.

Treatment for cancer patients can be complex and patients often take several prescription drugs to assist them with their treatment and the side effects of the treatment. Cancer patients often have to make multiple trips to the pharmacy for their prescription drugs, which can prove onerous on a cancer patient who often feels ill following treatment. Allowing the pharmacist to be able to fill up to a 90-day supply of a prescription drug that is not a controlled substance – instead of a 30-day supply -- can help improve the quality of life for cancer patients as they undergo treatment.

Allowing patients access to 90 day prescriptions makes management of multiple medications easier for the patient and could lead to better coordination of care and improved quality of life for patients and their families.

The legislation would permit a pharmacist to refill up to a 90-day supply of medications provided certain conditions are met. The legislation would prohibit the dispensing of a 90-day supply of a prescription drug for controlled substances and in cases where the practitioner indicates that the initial or refill quantity cannot be changed.

ACS CAN encourages the enactment of this legislation to help improve medical adherence for cancer patients.

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