

**Proponent Testimony on House Bill 24
House Insurance Committee
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Dr. Jeanna Knoble
Medical Oncologist, Managing Physician Partner
Zangmeister Cancer Center and Hematology Oncology Center

Chairman Lampton and members of the committee, on behalf of the Zangmeister Cancer Center, we urge the House Insurance Committee to vote in favor of House Bill 24, legislation meant to provide patients with coverage for biomarker testing.

My name is Dr. Jeanna Knoble, and I am a practicing oncologist at Zangmeister Cancer Center, where we have served Ohioans living with cancer for over 30 years, in Columbus, Grove City, and Westerville, Ohio. On behalf of all of us at the Center, we thank you and your colleagues for considering the positive impact this legislation will have on our patients.

Biomarker testing is a crucial tool in the modern fight against cancer, allowing our oncologists to assess a patient's blood, tissue, or other specimens for more accurate and cost-effective therapies. By tailoring treatment based on these biomarkers, we can often improve patient outcomes and survivorship. Unfortunately, despite the proven benefits of this testing, we often face challenges with insurers delaying or denying coverage for this service.

When coverage is denied, patients are forced to pay out of pocket, which can be a significant financial burden. They may struggle to find additional resources or programming to offset the cost of testing, hindering their access to potentially life-saving treatments. As biomarker testing continues to drive precision in treatment, it is increasingly important that payers recognize the value of this tool and ensure that patients are covered.

Zangmeister Cancer Center urges the House Insurance Committee to join us in our fight against cancer and support House Bill 24.

Thank you for your consideration and for your efforts to improve health care access and outcomes for Ohioans. Should you require further insight or wish to discuss this matter in more detail, please consider our practice as a resource moving forward.

Sincerely,

Jeanna Knoble, MD
Zangmeister Cancer Center
zangcenter.com