

As Introduced

**131st General Assembly
Regular Session
2015-2016**

S. R. No. 488

Senator Cafaro

**Cosponsors: Senators Gentile, Hite, Hughes, Jones, Schiavoni, Skindell,
Tavares, Williams, Yuko**

A R E S O L U T I O N

To urge the Congress of the United States, the 1
United States Food and Drug Administration, and 2
the National Institutes of Health to address the 3
cost and availability of cancer drugs. 4

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society estimates that about 5
1,685,210 new cancer cases will be diagnosed in 2016 and 6
approximately 595,690 Americans are expected to die from cancer 7
in 2016 (approximately 1,630 people per day). 8

WHEREAS, the National Institutes of Health estimates that 9
the overall cost of cancer in 2013 for direct medical costs was 10
nearly \$125 billion and direct medical costs are expected to 11
reach at least \$158 billion by 2020. 12

WHEREAS, each year, approximately 650,000 cancer patients 13
receive chemotherapy in outpatient oncology clinics in the 14
United States, with many receiving drugs combined together in 15
groups of two to four for combination chemotherapy. 16

WHEREAS, global spending on cancer drugs has increased from 17
\$37 billion a decade ago to \$91 billion in 2013. 18

WHEREAS, many insurance plans place cancer medications into 19

payment tiers that require the biggest out-of-pocket costs by 20
patients, often 20% to 40% of the cost of the medications. 21

WHEREAS, it is estimated that one in eight people with 22
advanced cancer turn down recommended care because of the cost; 23
now therefore be it 24

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the Senate of the 131st 25
General Assembly of the State of Ohio, urge the Congress of the 26
United States, the United States Food and Drug Administration, 27
and the National Institutes of Health to address the cost and 28
availability of cancer drugs; and be it further 29

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the Senate transmit duly 30
authenticated copies of this resolution to the Speaker and Clerk 31
of the United States House of Representatives, the President Pro 32
Tempore and Secretary of the United States Senate, the 33
Commissioner of the United States Food and Drug Administration, 34
and the Director of the National Institutes of Health. 35