



March 30, 2023

The Honorable Matt Klein
Chair, Senate Commerce and Consumer Protection Committee
95 University Avenue W.
Minnesota Senate Bldg., Room 2105
St. Paul, MN 55155

Re: Support for provisions in Senate File 2744 DE amendment

Dear Chair Klein and members of the committee:

The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the DE amendment for SF 2744, which will constitute the committee's omnibus bill for the session.

LLS encourages the committee to support the following patient-friendly provisions in the bill as amended:

1. Feasibility study on access to free primary care (Article 1, Section 2)
Primary care access is critical to early cancer diagnosis and timely treatment. Studying the potential to provide this necessary care to all Minnesotans is an exciting step towards improved care.
2. Coverage for preventive items and services (Article 1, Sections 3 through 7, 27, and 32)
Pending judicial action could weaken the preventive items and services provisions of the Affordable Care Act, which would hurt not only blood cancer patients, but all Minnesotans. Proactive steps should be taken to protect these aspects of coverage to promote better personal and public health.
3. Standard plan implementation for MNsure (Article 1, Section 33)
Requiring insurers to offer at least one MNsure product per tier with an identical cost-sharing structure will make it easier for consumers to do comparison shopping on coverage and network adequacy.

LLS must note the absence of Medigap coverage reform (SF 1486) in SF 2744. Blood cancer patients enrolled in traditional Medicare coverage can face severe out-of-pocket expenses if they do not have Medigap coverage. SF 1486's language is in the House omnibus Commerce bill (HF 2680) and should be included in the final omnibus package to prevent insurers from applying medical underwriting and other coverage barriers to the sale of these products.

LLS hopes your committee will support the policies outlined in our letter and welcomes the opportunity to answer any questions you might have. Thank you for considering our views.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dana Bacon".

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