

**American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network**  
**0330 SW Curry Street | Portland, Oregon 97239**  
**[www.acscan.org](http://www.acscan.org)**



March 21, 2013

To: Chair Monnes-Anderson, Senate Committee on Health Care and Human Services  
From: Jason Parks, Government Relations Director, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network  
RE: Support of Senate Bill 165

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (“ACS CAN”) is the advocacy affiliate of the American Cancer Society (the “Society”). The Society is a nationwide, community-based, voluntary health organization dedicated to eliminating cancer as a major health problem by preventing cancer, saving lives, and diminishing suffering from cancer, through research, education, advocacy, and service.

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) appreciates the opportunity to voice our support of Senate Bill 165 to the committee.

ACS CAN supported the passage of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and has since worked to support its implementation. The ACA links the essential health benefits package to certain cost-sharing limits--plans that are required to offer the essential health benefits package are also required to limit the cost sharing they charge. Senate Bill 165 would bring Oregon into compliance with this aspect of the ACA.

Specifically, this legislation would cap annual cost-sharing for all health services at \$5,950 for an individual and \$11,950 for a family. Without these caps, the financial repercussions of a cancer diagnosis could be catastrophic. An ACS CAN poll conducted prior to the passage of the ACA found that one in five families affected by cancer had used up all or most of their savings because of health care costs, and nearly a third of all adults with cancer reported difficulties in paying for necessities like food, housing, and heat.

People with cancer rely heavily on our health care system and it is essential that cost-sharing limits be in place to ensure they do not have to choose between paying their mortgage and paying their medical bills. Senate Bill 165 creates these limits, while simultaneously aligning Oregon law to comply with the ACA. Please join ACS CAN in supporting this legislation.

Thank you for your time and consideration.