



State Rep. Andrea Salinas, Chair
House Committee on Health Care
Oregon State Legislature
900 Court Street NE
Salem, OR 97301

26 March, 2019

Chair Salinas,

I am writing to express concerns with HB 2678 which would allow the Oregon Health Authority to require prior authorization for prescription drugs. As the voice of thousands of cancer patients and their families in Salem, the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) has concerns with HB 2678 as drafted. While the legislation as drafted provides exemptions for certain classifications of drugs, ACS CAN requests amendments be drafted to provide further protection for patients in Oregon.

ACS CAN would prefer any prior authorization requirements be held to a specific timeframe, especially in urgent situations. ACS CAN's position is that such authorizations be decided in five days for non-urgent requests and 24-hours for urgent requests.

A cancer diagnosis can be life changing and cancer treatment can be urgent. ACS CAN strongly encourages the adoption of amendments to provide a timeframe applicable to any prior authorization to better protect cancer patients. ACS CAN members urge drafting and adoption of an amendment.

Thank you in advance for your thoughtful consideration.

Sincerely,

Christopher Friend

Oregon Government Relations Director

American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network

Christopher Friend

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