

September 16, 2025

Dear Chairman Smith,

We write today to express our sincere gratitude for your leadership on the Ways & Means Committee in championing H.R. 842, the Nancy Gardner Sewell Medicare Multi-Cancer Early Detection Screening Coverage Act.

There will be more than 40,000 new cancer diagnoses in Missouri this year, too many of them in later stages. We know that late-stage diagnoses are the most difficult for patients and their families, as treatments are typically more complicated and expensive.

In Missouri, the cancer community - including patients, families, providers, advocates, and researchers - recognizes that early screening is critical in the fight against cancer. Thanks to technological advances, new multi-cancer early detection tests now make it possible to screen for multiple cancers with a simple blood draw, offering hope for earlier diagnosis when treatment is most effective, but first, Congress must act.

Congress has the opportunity to greatly reduce the burden of cancer by ensuring meaningful Medicare coverage for early detection screenings. Federal policy must not lag behind scientific innovation. Your committee's attention to this bill this week is so important. Missouri families are counting on this legislation, and the cancer community stands ready to support efforts that will secure its passage.

Together, we can make a real difference in the fight against cancer. Thank you again for your efforts this week and we look forward to seeing H.R. 842 passed into law this year.

Sincerely,



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