



September 16, 2025

Dear Chairman Smith, Ranking Member Neal, Chairman Guthrie, Ranking Member Pallone and members of the committees:

The National Minority Quality Forum Action Network (NMQF AN) believes that our health care system's most important responsibility is to minimize patient risk – the risk of premature death and the risk of debilitating illness. When it comes to cancer, there is no more effective means for reducing this risk than early detection. To this end, today we write in strong support of H.R. 842, The Nancy Gardner Sewell Medicare Multi-Cancer Early Detection Screening Act and urge its passage.

We have been strong supporters of this legislation for years, driven in part because health inequities are particularly prominent when it comes to cancer screenings and diagnoses. Individuals who are Black, Hispanic or American Indian/Alaska Native are disproportionately diagnosed with cancer in those later, less treatable stages of the disease.

The emergence of multi-cancer early detection (MCED) tests can help turn the tide on the rates of late diagnosis. Using a blood draw, MCED tests make cancer screening more accessible for all Americans, including those in underserved and rural communities. They can reduce the burden of cancer and allow for less costly treatments.

But first, Congress must pass H.R. 842. Without it, Medicare coverage for MCED tests could be delayed for years. With this legislation, older Americans, those who are most risk to cancer, can have access to new diagnostic innovations that can make a meaningful difference in our fight against cancer.

NMQF is proud to stand with hundreds of other organizations from across the country and across the political spectrum - representing patients, health care providers and underserved communities, in endorsing this legislation. H.R. 842 has broad, enthusiastic support because it improves the state of our cancer screening capabilities and is the kind of investment that vastly improves our health care system for all Americans.

Thank you for your committees' attention to this legislation this week and we urge its immediate passage into law.

Sincerely,
Gary A. Puckrein, PhD
President & Chief Executive Officer
National Minority Quality Forum Action Network