

134 Park Central Square Suite 210, Springfield, MO 65806 (703) 548-1225 FightCRC.org

March 20, 2025

The Hon. Chairman Rob Nosse Oregon House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care 900 Court St. NE Salem, Oregon 97301

To Chair Nosse:

On behalf of Fight Colorectal Cancer, a national patient advocacy organization dedicated to the colorectal cancer community, we appreciate the opportunity to share our support for <u>HB3421</u>, sponsored by Hon. <u>Representative Dacia Grayber</u> (District 28) and Hon. <u>Representative Willy</u> <u>Chotzen</u> (District 46). We thank both sponsors for their work and focus on expanding access and coverage of biomarker testing options for Oregonians. We thank the House Committee on Behavioral Health and Health Care for consideration of this legislation and allowing public testimony to be submitted.

As the committee may be aware, colorectal cancer is the second leading cause of cancer death for men and women combined. Colorectal cancer is also increasing in young people. It is the number one cause of cancer death for men under the age of 50 and number two for women under age 50. According to the <u>American Cancer Society</u>, in 2025, it is estimated that 1,850 Oregonians will be diagnosed with colorectal cancer and 700 will die from the disease.

Biomarker testing is an important diagnostic tool for colorectal cancer patients that provides valuable insight to patients and their clinician to inform the best and most effective course of treatment. Ensuring that biomarker testing is a covered benefit will benefit all Oregonians, especially those who may be susceptible to or predisposed to colorectal cancer.

We believe that ensuring that cost is not a prohibitive barrier for Oregonians to access biomarker testing coverage is crucial. Fight Colorectal Cancer supports HB3421. Thank you for your commitment to this issue and we look forward to seeing this important legislation move forward.

Sincerely,

Shahryar M. Baig State Policy Manager Fight Colorectal Cancer

CC:

Brian Nieuburrt, LPRO Analyst Alexandra Kihn-Stang, LPRO Analyst Timothy Merrill, Committee Assistant

## **RELENTLESS CHAMPIONS OF HOPE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST COLORECTAL CANCER**