

Testimony in support of SB 255
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American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network



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Chairwoman McGinn and members of the Committee:

The American Cancer Society Action Network (ACS CAN) appreciates the opportunity to comment on Senate Bill 255. ACS CAN, the nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy affiliate of the American Cancer Society, supports evidence-based policy and legislative solutions designed to eliminate cancer as a major health problem. As the nation's leading advocate for public policies that are helping to defeat cancer, ACS CAN ensures that cancer patients, survivors, and their families have a voice in public policy matters at all levels of government. **In the fight against cancer, increased investment in cancer research is critical to finding new treatments and saving lives.**

This year there will be over 15,000 new cancer diagnosis and an estimated 5,500 deaths due to cancer in our state. Investments in cancer research help to find more and better treatments, uncover factors that may cause cancer, and improve patients' quality of life. In addition to improving lives and preventing disease, investment in research also yields a positive economic impact. Funding from the National Institutes of Health for research supported over 1,700 jobs and created \$284.6 million in new economic activity in Kansas in 2017.

We've made significant breakthroughs in the fight against cancer, but we know there is more to be done. **Passage of SB 255 will provide needed funds for lifesaving research to be conducted in our state, leading to improved treatments and lives saved.** ACS CAN supports this important legislation.