

# CANCER LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

A PATIENT-CENTERED FORUM OF NATIONAL ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS  
ADDRESSING PUBLIC POLICY ISSUES IN CANCER

December 7, 2009

The Honorable Sherrod Brown  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senators Brown and Hutchison:

The undersigned cancer patient, provider, and research organizations lend their enthusiastic support to your amendment to H.R. 3590 establishing a policy for third-party coverage of routine patient care costs for patients participating in clinical research studies. We consider the ability to receive treatment in a clinical trial an important part of a quality health care system and applaud your effort to remove the significant financial barriers to access.

Access to clinical trials is a clear benefit to the individual patient, but we are also mindful of the contribution that participation in clinical research makes to the advance of medical knowledge and ultimately to improved patient outcomes for all. The long-term success of health care reform will depend on the capacity of our health care system to foster the sort of medical progress that requires robust participation in clinical trials, which will unquestionably be encouraged by this amendment.

The cancer community appreciates your leadership on clinical trials payment issues. We look forward to working with you to enhance access to treatment in clinical trials.

Sincerely,

## **Cancer Leadership Council**

American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network  
American Psychosocial Oncology Society  
American Society for Radiation Oncology  
American Society of Clinical Oncology  
Bladder Cancer Advocacy Network  
Breast Cancer Network of Strength

C3: Colorectal Cancer Coalition  
Cancer Care  
The Children's Cause for Cancer Advocacy  
Coalition of Cancer Cooperative Groups  
Education Network to Advance Cancer Clinical Trials (ENACCT)  
International Myeloma Foundation  
Kidney Cancer Association  
Lance Armstrong Foundation  
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society  
Lymphoma Research Foundation  
Multiple Myeloma Research Foundation  
National Coalition for Cancer Survivorship  
National Comprehensive Cancer Network  
National Lung Cancer Partnership  
National Patient Advocate Foundation  
North American Brain Tumor Coalition  
Ovarian Cancer National Alliance  
Pancreatic Cancer Action Network  
Prevent Cancer Foundation  
Sarcoma Foundation of America  
Susan G. Komen for the Cure Advocacy Alliance  
Us TOO International Prostate Cancer Education and Support Network  
The Wellness Community