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March 10, 2022

Senate Committee on Public Health and Welfare  
SB 501 / Testimony in Opposition  
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN)

Chairman Hilderbrand and Members of the Committee on Public Health and Welfare,

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) is the nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy affiliate of the American Cancer Society. On behalf of our constituents, many of whom have been personally affected by cancer, we ask that you vote no on SB 501. ACS CAN's objections to SB 501 include:

- **New Section:** The section proposes a change to the state's presumptive eligibility (PE) policy; in particular, requiring KDHE to apply for a waiver of hospital PE for all populations other than children and pregnant women. Such a change would eliminate PE as an option for all adults who are not pregnant including women eligible for cancer screenings under the Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection program, or Early Detection Works. The EDW program is an invaluable tool for Kansas women, providing a critical service for detecting cancer at earlier stages for those un/underinsured. Early detection means earlier cancer treatment and higher rates of surviving a cancer diagnosis when time is of the essence. ***SB 501 would curtail access to the EDW program for eligible women with the elimination of hospital PE.***
- **K.S.A. 39-709, Section 2, M(1):** The section prohibits KDHE from accepting a determination of Medicaid eligibility from the exchange without an independent verification of eligibility from KDHE. ACS CAN supports efforts to make enrolling in health coverage as easy as possible, including efforts to integrate marketplace and Medicaid enrollment so that there is 'no wrong door' to coverage. ***SB 501 limits the integration between these two programs and subsequently, slows Kansans' access to health care.***
- **K.S.A. 39-709, Section 2, M(2):** The section directs KDHE to request a 1115 waiver that would lock enrollees out of Medicaid coverage for 6 months if they fail to report an income change that renders them ineligible for health coverage. This penalty is especially problematic for an enrollee who makes an innocent mistake, gets locked out of coverage, and then, as just one example, gets diagnosed with breast cancer and would otherwise be eligible for coverage through BCCP. ***SB 501 levies penalties against Kansans that could result in losing access to life saving cancer screenings.***

**ACS CAN believes that providing Kansans timely access to affordable, comprehensive health care coverage is critical in the fight against cancer. SB 501 creates barriers to that access for un/underinsured Kansans; ACS CAN encourages lawmakers to oppose SB 501.** Thank you for your consideration.

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