

# 2024 HAWAII CANCER ACTION DAY

# AGENDA

- 9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.** Check-In Hawaii State Capitol RM 437
- 9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.** Welcome and Cancer Action Day Overview
- Welcome - Chelsea Gonzales, State Lead Ambassador
  - Logistics / Overview of Day - Cynthia Au Government Relations Director
  - 2024 Legislative Priorities
  - Representative Cory Chun Remarks
  - Senator Sharon Moriwaki
- 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 pm** Lawmaker Meetings
- 11:00 a.m.** Senate Chamber
- 12:00 p.m.** Group Photo
- 12:30 p.m.** House Chamber
- Lunch
- Report Back Forms- Online
- 3:00 p.m.** Adjourn

## 2024 Hawaii Legislative Priorities

Victory in the fight against cancer requires bold new public policies that promote cancer prevention, early detection of cancer, and expand access to quality, affordable health care. The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) will work with the Hawai'i State Legislature on legislative and regulatory efforts to help fund needed studies, adequate access to healthcare, and to support tobacco prevention and control. We will be making the following fact-based policies a priority and ask for your support:

### Multi-ethnic Cohort Study: SUPPORT HB 1301 HDI SDI

Cancer is the leading cause of death among Asian Americans and the second-leading cause among Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander individuals. All individuals should have equitable access to quality cancer care and an equal opportunity to live a healthy life. To aid in future research to improve health outcomes and decrease cancer disparities, we are asking the legislature for \$1 million over two years to fund a multi-ethnic cohort study by the University of Hawaii Cancer Center of Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders and Asian groups including Filipinos to collect data on the contributing factors to health disparities that currently exist.

### Biomarker Testing Coverage: SUPPORT HCR53 and SCR159

Progress in improving cancer outcomes increasingly involves the use of precision medicine, which uses information about a person's own genes or proteins to better diagnose and treat diseases like cancer. Biomarker testing is an important step to accessing precision medicine which includes targeted therapies that can lead to improved survivorship and better quality of life for cancer patients, but insurance coverage for biomarker testing is failing to keep pace with innovations and advancements in treatment.

### Fertility Preservation: SUPPORT HB 1624 HDI

All individuals should have equitable access to quality cancer care and an equal opportunity to live a full life. ACS CAN supports requiring insurance plans to cover standard fertility preservation services for cancer patients and survivors. The treatments received by cancer patients may directly impact their ability to produce children. Coverage of fertility services provides options for cancer survivors to have children even after treatment has resulted in temporary or permanent infertility, allowing those impacted by cancer to focus their efforts where they belong—on getting better.

### Tobacco Prevention and Control: Protect Smoke-free Air OPPOSE SB3335 SD2 HDI

ACS CAN opposes legislation that does not maintain statewide comprehensive smoke-free law that covers all public areas including workplaces. ACS CAN will work to maintain smoke-free air laws to prohibit the smoking or aerosolization of any cannabis or hemp product wherever smoking is prohibited and to defend the statewide smoke-free air laws against any exemptions.

For more information, contact: Cynthia Au, Hawaii Guam Government Relations Director, ACS CAN

Cynthia.Au@cancer.org 808.460.6109

American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network  
 @ACSCANHI |  @ACSCANHI | [fightcancer.org](https://www.fightcancer.org)

# HAWAII 2024 LEGISLATIVE ASKS



## 1 Support Cancer Research in this budget: HB1301 HD1 SD1

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Cancer is the leading cause of death among Asian Americans and the second-leading cause among Native Hawaiian and other Pacific Islander individuals. All individuals should have equitable access to quality cancer care and an equal opportunity to live a healthy life. To aid in future research to improve health outcomes and decrease cancer disparities, we are asking the legislature for \$1 million over two years to fund a multi-ethnic cohort study by the University of Hawaii Cancer Center of Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders and Asian groups including Filipinos to provide data on the contributing factors to health disparities that currently exist.

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### **The ASK: Will you support Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders and Filipinos in a multi-ethnic cohort study by the University of Hawaii Cancer Center and pass HB1301 HD1 SD1 out of conference committee?**

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- 8,460 Hawaii residents will be diagnosed with cancer this year.
- Cancer is the second leading cause of death in Hawaii with an estimated 2,620 deaths this year.
- Cancer affects everyone but it doesn't affect everyone equally.
- To help research to improve health outcomes and decrease cancer disparities we need data on social determinants (i.e. multigenerational households, travel distance to nearest clinic, income, cultural stigmas, etc.)
- Initial funding of the study will increase research opportunities for additional funding as a National Cancer Institute research grants.
- There are over 200,000 Filipinos in Hawaii. For every 4 people, one has Filipino ancestry.

From the tumor registry in Hawaii (2018):

- Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders have one of the highest incidence rates of breast, lung, colorectal, cervical, pancreatic, gastric and liver cancers among all U.S. racial/ethnic populations.
- Cancer is the leading cause of death in Filipino, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander women and the second leading cause of death after heart disease for Filipino, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander men.
- Breast cancer incidence and mortality were highest among Native Hawaiian women compared to any other racial or ethnic group in Hawaii.

# HAWAII 2024 LEGISLATIVE ASKS



## **1** Support Cancer Research in this budget: HB1301 HD1 SD1

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- Breast cancer incidence and mortality were highest among Native Hawaiian women compared to any other racial or ethnic group in Hawaii.
- Lung cancer incidence is higher among Native Hawaiians and Filipinos. Filipinos have the 3rd highest advanced stage diagnosis after Native Hawaiians in lung & bronchus cancer.
- Filipinos have the highest advanced stage prostate diagnosis followed by Native Hawaiians.
- Native Hawaiian males have the highest mortality kidney/pelvis cancer.
- Native Hawaiian males have the highest mortality of colon/rectum cancer.

The importance of collecting data on the social determinants of the populations of Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders and Asian groups including Filipinos will help to provide much needed information on why these populations have higher cancer rates in Hawaii.

Data will help to find gaps in cancer prevention and care delivery that contribute to these disparities.

# HAWAII 2024

## LEGISLATIVE ASKS



## 2 Ensure Access to Quality Care: Biomarker Testing

### HCR53 and SCR159

Progress in improving cancer outcomes increasingly involves the use of precision medicine, which uses information about a person's own genes or proteins to better diagnose and treat diseases like cancer. Biomarker testing is an important step to accessing precision medicine which includes targeted therapies that can lead to improved survivorship and better quality of life for cancer patients.

### The ASK: Will you support an auditor study to assess the social and financial effects of health insurance coverage for biomarker testing, SCR159 and HCR53?

Biomarker testing can be used to determine the best treatment for a patient and is key to getting patients the right treatment at the right time.

- 60% of oncology drugs launched in the past five years require or recommend biomarker testing prior to use.
- Many insurance companies don't currently cover this important testing for all patients who need it.
- Increased access to biomarker testing will enable more patients to get personalized cancer treatment and lifesaving therapies.
- Access to appropriate biomarker testing can help to achieve:
  - better health outcomes
  - improved quality of life
  - reduced costs
- Fifteen states have recently passed legislation to expand coverage of comprehensive biomarker testing.
  - In 2000, 15% of cancer clinical trials involved biomarkers.
  - In 2018, 55% of cancer clinical trials involved biomarkers.

# HAWAII 2024

## LEGISLATIVE ASKS



### 3 **Ensure Access to Quality Care: Fertility Preservation**

All individuals should have equitable access to quality cancer care and an equal opportunity to live a full life. ACS CAN supports requiring insurance plans to cover standard fertility preservation services for cancer patients and survivors. The treatments received by cancer patients may directly impact their ability to produce children. Coverage of fertility services provides options for cancer survivors to have children even after treatment has resulted in temporary or permanent infertility, allowing those impacted by cancer to focus their efforts where they belong—on getting better.

#### **The ASK: Will you support fertility preservation and vote yes to HB1624 HD1?**

- Fertility treatments become an important medical question for many young cancer patients. Costs for fertility treatment are a significant barrier for many patients and services are often not covered by insurance.
- Coverage of fertility preservation services provides options for cancer survivors to pursue having children even after treatment has resulted in temporary or permanent infertility.
- Hawaii's childhood cancer incidence rate is 26.8 per 100,000, compared with a national rate of 19 for those less than 20 years of age.[iii] The incidence of childhood cancer in Hawaii has been rising over the past ten years.
- About 80,000 young adults aged 20 to 39 are diagnosed with cancer each year in the United States. [ii]
- As of May 2023, 21 states require insurers to provide some form of coverage for diagnosis and treatment of infertility; of those, 13 require coverage of some fertility preservation services.
- Cancer treatments may directly impact their ability to produce children caused by:
  - A tumor directly damaging an organ or its surrounding tissue
  - Removing cancerous organs that normally would be needed to have a child.
- There is a risk of birth defects when a woman becomes pregnant while getting or after receiving some types of chemotherapy, radiation therapy, and hormone therapy.
- Women and men are typically advised not to get pregnant during treatment and may be told to avoid getting pregnant afterwards, depending on the treatment and specifics of their diagnosis.

[i] American Cancer Society. Cancer Facts & Figures 2023. Atlanta: American Cancer Society; 2023

[ii] See <https://www.cancer.org/cancer/cancer-in-young-adults/key-statistics.html>

[iii] National Cancer Institute, State Cancer Profiles, <https://statecancerprofiles.cancer.gov/quick-profiles/index.php?tabSelected=2&statername=hawaii>

[iv] American Cancer Society, How Cancer and Cancer Treatment Can Affect Fertility, <https://www.cancer.org/treatment/treatments-and-side-effects/physical-side-effects/fertility-and-sexual-sideeffects/how-cancer-treatment-affects-fertility.html>

[v] Ibid.

# HAWAII 2024

## LEGISLATIVE ASKS



### **4 Tobacco Prevention and Control: Protect Smoke-free Air OPPOSE SB3335 HD1**

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ACS CAN requests clarification that smoking, including the use of e-cigarettes, of any and all cannabis or cannabis derived products, whether natural or synthetic, is prohibited in all workplaces and public places. ACS CAN opposes legislation that undermines statewide comprehensive smoke-free law covering all public areas including workplaces and advocate to maintain prohibiting the smoking or aerosolization of any cannabis or hemp wherever smoking is prohibited and to defend the statewide smoke-free air laws against any exemptions.

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### **The ASK: Will you oppose SB3335 to prohibit the smoking or aerosolization of any cannabis or hemp wherever smoking is prohibited?**

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- ACS CAN does not have a position on legalization of marijuana, however we encourage the legislature to ensure cannabis laws do not undermine effective tobacco control laws and further health disparities.
- We encourage the legislature to ensure cannabis laws do not undermine effective tobacco control laws and further health disparities.
- Concerned about reducing exposure to secondhand smoke.
- Bill is unclear that any and all cannabis or cannabis derived products including hemp, whether natural or synthetic, is prohibited in all workplaces and public places.
- ACS CAN requests clarification that smoking, including the use of e-cigarettes, of any and all cannabis or cannabis derived products, whether natural or synthetic, is prohibited in all workplaces and public places. This includes prohibiting indoor smoking associated with permits for special events and social consumption.
- Bill redefines “e-liquids” to exempt cannabis which undermines our tobacco control laws including regulations on e-cigarettes.
- Opposes smoking or aerosolization of any form of cannabis.

#### Health Effects:

- Marijuana smoke, like tobacco smoke, is a lung irritant and can pose significant risks to people who use and to those near use.

# HAWAII 2024 LEGISLATIVE ASKS



## 4 Tobacco Prevention and Control: Smoke-free Air

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- Individuals who use marijuana may also experience other adverse effects, such as altered senses, changes in mood, and impaired cognitive and motor functions in the short-term; to impacts on breathing, brain development and the potential for addiction and risk of other drug or alcohol use in the long-term.
- Among youth, the aerosolization of marijuana through e-cigarettes increased prior to the pandemic. In 2019, 3.9 percent of 8th graders, 12.6 percent of 10th graders, and 14.0 percent of 12th graders were current users (defined as use in the past 30 days).[iii]
- The 2023 levels remain substantial, with the percentage of youth using marijuana in the last year at 29% in 12th grade, 18% in 10th grade, and 8% in 8th grade.[iv]
- Marijuana smoke contains many of the cancer-causing substances found in tobacco smoke and has been shown to cause testicular cancer.

[ii] Schauer GL, Njai R, Grant-Lenzy AM. Modes of marijuana use - smoking, vaping, eating, and dabbing: Results from the 2016 BRFSS in 12 States. *Drug Alcohol Depend.* 2020 Apr 1;209:107900. doi: 10.1016/j.drugalcdep.2020.107900. Epub 2020 Feb 6. PMID: 32061947.

[iii] Miech, R. A., Patrick, M. E., O'Malley, P. M., Johnston, L. D., & Bachman, J. G. (2020). Trends in Reported Marijuana Vaping Among US Adolescents, 2017-2019. *JAMA*, 323(5), 475-476. <https://doi.org/10.1001/jama.2019.20185>

[iv] Miech, R. A., Johnston, L. D., Patrick, M. E., O'Malley, P. M., & Bachman, J. G. (2023). Monitoring the Future national survey results on drug use, 1975-2023: Secondary school students. *Monitoring the Future Monograph Series*. Ann Arbor, MI: Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan. Available at <https://monitoringthefuture.org/results/annual-reports>



# 2024 HAWAII CANCER ACTION DAY Lawmaker Mtg Info

## Meeting Outline:

Hook: Leader makes introductions.

Line: Explain the need.

Sinker: Make the ask.



## Reminders:

Be polite and professional to lawmakers and staff.

It is okay to look at your notes!

Your personal story matters more than anything else.

Your legislators work for you and your voice matters!

Take a photo!



# #HICancerActionDay

# Hook, Line, and Sinker



**The hook, line and sinker strategy will help ensure you cover key messages and conduct an effective and successful meeting with your lawmaker.**

## **Hook: Who You Are**

Tell them who you are. Remember, you are a voter, a survivor/caregiver/advocate and their constituent. Make sure everyone in the group introduces themselves.

Be careful. A little small talk is acceptable but stay on message and don't be drawn into storytelling off topic – you'll never know where the time went!

State why you are here by introducing the ask/s.

## **Line: Share your stories and statistics.**

Be informative, be thorough and be concise. Provide your lawmaker with personal stories. They'll appreciate real-life examples that put a human face on the issue. Discuss how the legislation will directly affect you, your friends and your family. Personal stories truly make an impact and achieve results.

## **Sinker: The Request**

Ask your legislator their position on the issue. Be polite, direct and specific. Wait for their response. It is important to get a clear answer to provide on your report back form.

Answer any questions to the best of your ability. If you don't know the answer, it's OK to say "that's a good question, I'm not positive on the answer, and I'll need to get back to you." Don't answer any questions you're not 100% sure you know the answer to – make sure to list them on your report back forms. This is an excellent opportunity for staff to follow-up with the lawmaker after our day!

Leave on a positive note. As you wrap up the conversation, repeat one last time what action you hope the lawmaker will support. Make sure your lawmaker and/or their staff member receives a copy of the leave-behind materials. Thank them for their time and offer to be an ongoing resource.

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# Hook, Line, and Sinker, Continued



## Hook

Who you are, where you're from -- Leader introduces the rest of the group.  
"We are here to today to ask for..."

## Line

What is the problem we are trying to solve? \_\_\_\_\_

What is the proposed policy solution?

\_\_\_\_\_

What is a data point to back up that solution? \_\_\_\_\_

**Share your cancer connection and how it relates to the ask.**

**Add your personal story:**

Why are you passionate about the fight against cancer?

How can you find a connection to the days asks? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Sinker

"In conclusion..."

We're asking \_\_\_\_\_

Will you support [State Issue] to help cancer patients by

\_\_\_\_\_

**Don't forget the "thank you"!  
The appreciation goes a long way  
Feel free to ask for a selfie AFTER your meeting**

**#HICancerActionDay**

# Lawmaker Meetings: Suggested Script



"Thank you, Representative/Senator \_\_\_\_\_, for taking the time to meet with your cancer-fighting constituents today.

My name is \_\_\_\_\_ and I am an ACS CAN volunteer. With me are constituents and advocates from around your district to talk about their cancer stories. **Introduce constituent(s) in the room with you.**

During this meeting we would like to discuss:

- Supporting a multi-ethnic cohort study of Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders and Filipinos to decrease cancer disparities, HB1301
- Supporting an auditor study on biomarker testing coverage, HCR53 and SCR194
- Supporting fertility preservation, HB1624
- Protecting smoke-free air laws and prohibit prohibit the smoking or aerosolization of any cannabis or hemp wherever smoking is prohibited, SB3335

**This is important to me because (share your personal story and connect it to the importance of [state issue]. If another volunteer has a personal story that has a strong connection, please introduce them and have them speak. Keep it brief.)**

## The ASK:

- Will you support Native Hawaiians, Pacific Islanders and Filipinos in a multi-ethnic cohort study by the University of Hawaii Cancer Center and pass HB1301 HD1 SD1 out of conference committee?
- Will you support an auditor study to assess the social and financial effects of health insurance coverage for biomarker testing, SCR159 and HCR53?
- Will you support fertility preservation and vote yes to HB1624 HD1?
- Will you oppose SB3335 to prohibit the smoking or aerosolization of any cannabis or hemp wherever smoking is prohibited?

*Remember, we want to hear a yes or no answer.*

- If your elected official answers yes to this question that is great! Thank him/her for their support.
- If your member answers no, ask why and if there is further information you can provide after the meeting. Include that information on your report back form.
- If your member doesn't give a direct yes or no answer, ask for clarification.
- You should plan to follow-up with your House Representative 1-2 weeks after your meeting (by phone or email) to ensure their questions are answered and check on their level of support.

**#HICancerActionDay**

# Lawmaker Meetings: Suggested Script



## **The CLOSE:**

Before we leave, can we take a photo with you?

Thank you for taking the time to meet with all of us and for all that you do for the people of Hawaii and your support of cancer related issues.

**Please note:** this script is a framework for your conversation. Please feel free to elaborate and share your personal cancer story and use information from the fact sheet and talking points.

# Lawmaker Meeting: Do & Don't



## Do:

- Look and act professional
- Introduce yourself and tell the legislator where you are from
- Stay on message
- Be prepared to wait
- Know the asks and something about it
- Be efficient and articulate; the meeting should be brief and concise
- Ask for your legislator's support for the issue
- Stop discussing the issue if you get a "Yes"
- Leave a one-pager about the issue
- Turn off your cell phone
- Thank the lawmaker (be sure to also send a thank-you note)

## Don't:

- Attempt to answer questions you don't know the answer to or commit to anything you aren't certain of
- Get angry or hostile
- Get distracted by small talk
- Mention your political affiliation
- Leave behind materials that aren't provided in this packet
- Lobby on other issues
- Get defensive if an elected official doesn't support our legislation

# Lawmaker Meeting: Schedule



## Keep track of your meetings:

Chamber	Name	Meeting Time	Meeting Notes	Do they support or oppose?	Do they have a cancer story?
House					
House					
House					
Senate					
Senate					

### Meeting Outline:

**Hook:** Leader makes introduction.

**Line:** Explain the need.

**Sinker:** Make the ask.

### Remember:

Be polite and professional to lawmakers and interns.

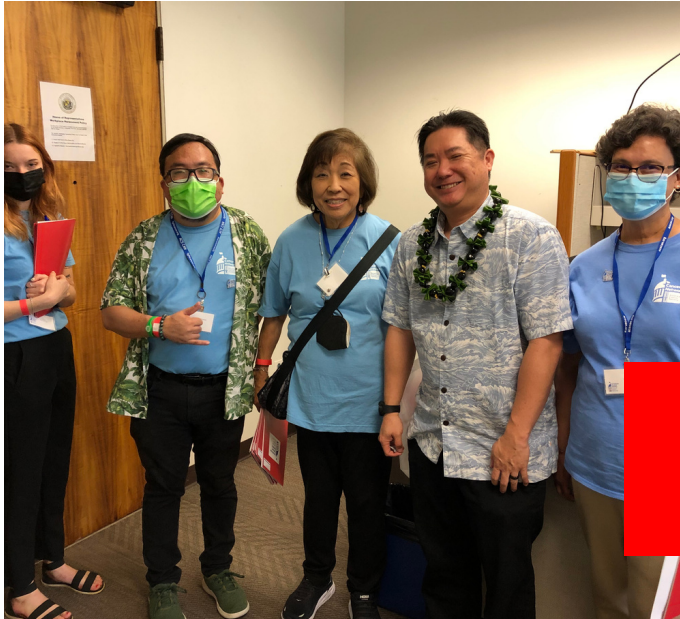
It is okay to look at your notes!

Your personal story matters more than anything else.

Your legislators work for you and your voice matters

#HICancerActionDay

# Report Back Form



**HOW WAS YOUR  
LAWMAKER MEETING?**

## Report back and let us know how your meeting went

Your feedback helps our staff provide additional information to lawmakers and make strategic decisions in successful campaigns. Share with us what you heard from your lawmaker during your recent visit.

**Remember:** One report back form should be completed for each lawmaker meeting

**Scan the QR code or visit:**

**<https://act.fightcancer.org/a/acs-can-report-back-form>**



**#HICancerActionDay**



# Social Media



## Before Event

- Draft 3 social media posts that you can later copy and paste.
  - Who do you want to reach?
  - What story are you trying to tell?
  - What is one fact you want people to know?
- Share your personal story related to our asks at Cancer Action Day the night before.
- Follow your lawmakers on social media

## During Event

- Don't forget to post about what's happening in real time!
- Use hashtag in every post.
- Post updates, pictures, and tag lawmakers who volunteers are visiting.
- Tell lawmakers and their staff about our hashtag and handle and encourage them to use it.
- Thank lawmakers for meeting with us in a post and tag them in it. If possible, include a photo with the lawmaker for better engagement.
- Post an accompanying action alert for your campaign on your social media channels.

## After Event

- Post pictures of lawmaker meetings and tag their handles. Remember to mention the legislation or campaign discussed and include the event hashtag.
- Share engage with other volunteers posts. Like, share, and comment.
- Share ACS CAN [State] posts on social media

# Social Media



## Sample Posts

- Great meeting with [[@LAWMAKERHANDLE](#)] during [#HICancerActionDay](#) and discussing why it's so important to [[state issue](#)] in Hawaii. Let them know why you think it's important, too!
- Spending the day at the Hawaii State Capitol with [@ACSCANHI](#) asking lawmakers to make [[state issue](#)] a priority! [#HICancerActionDay](#)
- Thank you [[@LAWMAKERHANDLE](#)] for making [[state issue](#)] a top priority! [#HICancerActionDay](#)
- [@ACSCANHI](#) volunteers will be talking to lawmakers in 1 week at [#HICancerActionDay](#) about [[#state issue](#)]. Check back for photos & updates!

[#HICancerActionDay](#)

## **What do I wear?**

ACS CAN Blue shirt, comfortable walking shoes.

## **What time do I need to be at the Capitol? When are we done?**

Check in is at 9:00am–9:30am in RM 437. End at 3:00 pm.

## **Who should I contact with questions?**

Cynthia Au, Government Relations Director:

- Phone: 808.392.3229
- Email: [Cynthia.Au@cancer.org](mailto:Cynthia.Au@cancer.org)

Jenny Hausler, ACS CAN Senior Advisor

- Phone: 808.368.4594
- Email: [jenhausler@hotmail.com](mailto:jenhausler@hotmail.com)

## **What should I bring with me?**

- We will provide water. Water Bottle (optional- refill stations at the Capitol)
- A watch/cell phone to keep track of time

## **Can we watch a committee hearing or general session?**

As a group we will attend both House and Senate Floor Chamber session. If any of the bills are heard on Cancer Action Day, we can attend.