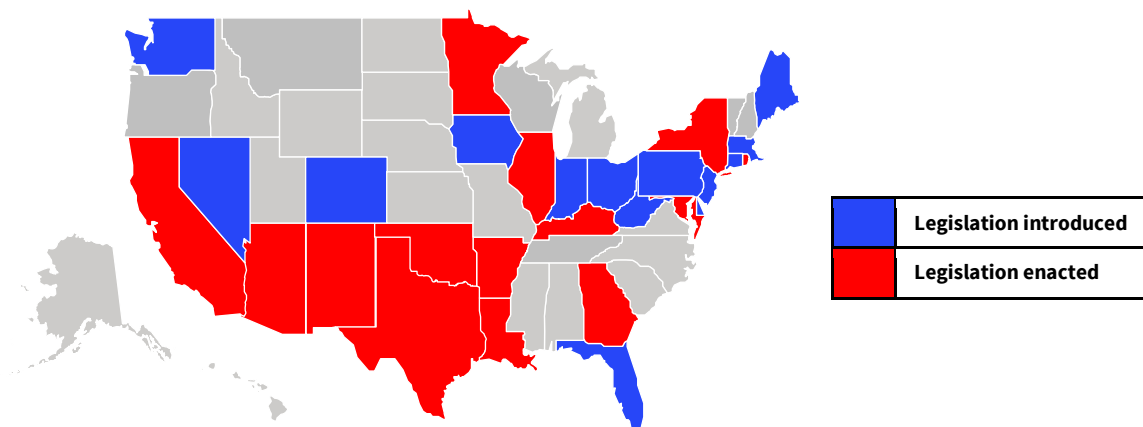


## 2024 Washington Legislative Priorities

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. In 2024, the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) will prioritize legislative and regulatory efforts that provide affordable, adequate access to cutting edge oncology care.

### Ensuring Access to Biomarker Testing

- **Biomarker testing** is the analysis of a patient’s tissue, blood, or other biospecimen for the presence of a biomarker. Biomarker testing includes, but is not limited to, single-analyte tests, multi-plex panel tests, and partial or whole genome sequencing. The results of these biomarker tests can help determine the best treatment plan for a specific patient and open the door to precision medicine.
- **ACS CAN supports requiring comprehensive coverage of biomarker testing.** The knowledge and practice of precision medicine in cancer and other diseases have been progressing rapidly and advances have led to targeted cancer therapies that require the use of biomarker testing. Testing patients for specific biomarkers is integral to precision medicine in cancer care. Despite evidence pointing to the clinical benefits associated with biomarker testing, routine clinical use does not always follow, and testing rates lag behind clinical guideline recommendations.
- **Coverage of biomarker testing in Washington is more restrictive than National Comprehensive Cancer Network clinical guidelines.** Insurance coverage for biomarker testing in Washington is failing to keep pace with innovations and advancements in treatment. We must work to dismantle barriers that prevent patients from benefiting from biomarker testing and precision medicine. A 2022 study published by the Journal of Precision Medicine found that 55% of covered lives in Washington currently do not have comprehensive coverage of biomarker testing.
- **Washington is falling behind.** Requirements for coverage for biomarker testing has now passed on **strong bi-partisan majorities** in 14 states and counting. It has been shown to be a **cost-effective tool** to get patients the right treatment at the right time and avoiding unnecessary cost in time, money, and quality of life.



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ACS CAN is making cancer a top priority for public officials and candidates at the federal, state, and local levels. ACS CAN empowers advocates across the country to make their voices heard and influence evidence-based public policy change as well as legislative and regulatory solutions that will reduce the cancer burden. As the American Cancer Society’s nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy affiliate, ACS CAN is critical to the fight for a world without cancer. For more information, please visit [www.fightcancer.org](http://www.fightcancer.org).

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