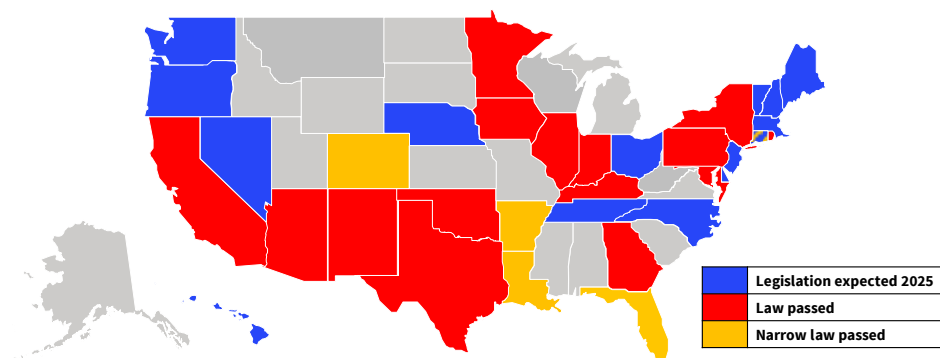


2025 Washington State Legislative Priorities

Victory in the fight against cancer requires bold public policy solutions that promote cancer prevention, increase early detection of cancer, expand access to quality, affordable health care, reduce disparities and advance health equity. These fact and evidenced-based priorities include:

Expanding Access to Care

- Access to Biomarker Testing – HB 1062:** ACS CAN will advocate for improved coverage of comprehensive biomarker testing. 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. **Washington is falling behind. Twenty states – including California, Arizona, New York, Texas and Minnesota have enacted similar legislation to expand coverage of biomarker testing across disease types with strong bipartisan support.**



Legislation enacted: AZ, AR*, CA, CO*, CT**, FL**, GA, IL, IN, IA, KY, LA*, MD, MN, NM, NY, OK, PA, RI, TX
 2025 legislation anticipated: CT*, DE, HI, MA, ME, NE, NV, NH, NJ, NC, OH, OR, TN, VT, WA
 * Private plans only **Public plans only

- Fertility Preservation – HB 1129/SB 5121:** Some cancer treatments can cause infertility, and as a result, individuals with cancer may choose to preserve their fertility prior to treatment. Failure to preserve fertility is a common regret that may affect survivors’ quality of life. ACS CAN supports legislation that would provide cancer patients with health insurance coverage for fertility preservation consistent with recommended medical guidelines.
- Reduce Patient Medical Debt – HB 1632/SB 5480:** ACS CAN recognizes the impact of medical debt on people with cancer, caregivers and their families. In addition to supporting policies that ensure affordable access to comprehensive healthcare coverage, ACS CAN will advocate for policies that prevent the occurrence of medical debt and reduce the impact of incurred medical debt on individuals and families.

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Cancer Prevention and Early Detection

- **Breast and Cervical Cancer:** ACS CAN will advocate **to maintain and protect funding of The Washington State Breast, Cervical, and Colon Health Program (BCCHP)** for low-income uninsured and underinsured women administered by the Washington Department of Health.

Reducing the Toll of Tobacco

- **Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Funding** ACS CAN will advocate to maintain program funding for fact-based, statewide tobacco prevention and cessation programs at maintenance levels, only a percentage of the CDC recommended funding levels of \$63 million for Washington state. This program prevents kids from starting to use tobacco and helps those who are trying to quit.
- **End the Sale of Menthol Cigarettes and All Other Flavored Tobacco Products – HB 1203/SB 5183:** ACS CAN supports legislation to end the sale of menthol cigarettes and all other flavored tobacco products. Comprehensive policies to end the sale of flavored tobacco products must include all tobacco products, all flavors, and all tobacco retailers.

Cancer Research Funding

- **Research Appropriations:** ACS CAN will work to protect/increase appropriations to support scientific research on cutting-edge treatments, including fully **funding the Andy Hill Cancer Research Endowment (CARE) Fund to the statutory maximum of \$22.2 million annually.**

Addressing Food Insecurity

- **Increasing Access to School Meals – HB 1404/SB 5352:** School meals offer students a variety of fruits and vegetables, whole grains, and age-appropriate portion sizes and may be the only nutritious meals many children eat during the day. Research suggests healthy eating pattern is associated with a reduced risk of cancer in adults. ACS CAN advocates for policies that support increasing access to free school meals to reduce food insecurity and improve diet quality.

For more information, contact: Audrey Miller García, Washington Government Relations Director
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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.