



H.R. 2407, the *Nancy Gardner Sewell Medicare Multi-Cancer Early Detection Screening Coverage Act*

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Background:

- Over the next ten years, **4.5 million seniors** will be diagnosed with late-stage cancer.
 - Medicare will spend an **estimated one trillion dollars on cancer care** in the next 10 years with **75%** being spent to treat late-stage cancer.
 - Cancer patients have an **89% survival rate when diagnosed early** compared to a 21% survival rate when diagnosed in later stages. Early cancer detection results in **four times better outcomes** and **seven times lower costs**.
- Access to cancer screenings has given Americans a combined **12 million additional life years** and added at least **\$6.5 trillion in additional economic benefit**.
- Rural patients face a **30% higher cancer mortality rate** than urban individuals.
- Residents of rural areas are **screened for cancer less often** and are **diagnosed with late-stage cancers more frequently** compared to residents of urban areas.
- New technologies on the market and in development allow for the **screening of multiple cancers** at once with small samples of blood.
- Currently, Medicare has **no viable pathway** for coverage of these innovative new technologies within the next decade even though early cancer detection can help drive down health care costs over the long run.
- Currently, Medicare beneficiaries only have access to early-detection screenings for five types of cancers; however, **71% of all cancer deaths** in the older population are from types that **do not have Medicare covered early-detection tests**.

The Nancy Gardner Sewell Medicare Multi-Cancer Early Detection Screening Coverage Act:

- Provides **transitional Medicare coverage** and reimbursement for FDA-approved multi-cancer early detection screening tests for a first group of beneficiaries most impacted by early screening until a traditional coverage decision is issued with coverage expanded to all.
 - Newly eligible Medicare beneficiaries, and those becoming eligible within the next few years, will receive **access to covered multi-cancer screening tests**, with those individuals continuing to receive coverage in perpetuity.
- This policy ensures timely coverage of innovative cancer screening tests so at-risk Medicare patients can receive the care and treatment needed to live healthier lives.