



March 22, 2024

The Honorable Richard D. Roth
Chair, Senate Health Committee
1021 O St., Room 3310
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: SB 1213 (Atkins) — Health Care Programs: Cancer — SUPPORT

Dear Senator Roth:

The best health care is preventive. Stopping diseases in their tracks saves lives and improves patient outcomes. Regular screenings are essential for early intervention. Californians should not be forced to forgo or delay critical preventive screenings for life-threatening illnesses, like breast or cervical cancer, due to cost.

For these reasons, the California Hospital Association (CHA), on behalf of more than 400 hospitals and health systems, supports Senate Bill 1213 (Atkins, D-San Diego). This bill would expand eligibility for the Breast and Cervical Cancer Treatment Program to Californians with family incomes of up to 300% of the federal poverty level; today, the limit is 200%. For a single-person household, this would increase the income threshold from \$30,000 to \$45,000 per year. By expanding eligibility to thousands of additional low-income Californians, our state will expedite access to treatment — ultimately saving lives.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Farouk", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark Farouk
Vice President, State Advocacy

cc: The Honorable Toni Atkins
The Honorable Members of the Senate Health Committee
Reyes Diaz, Consultant, Senate Health Committee
Joe Parra, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus
Tim Conaghan, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus