



June 26, 2024

The Honorable Buffy Wicks
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8220
Sacramento, CA 95814

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

Dear Assembly Member Wicks:

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. Costs to implement the bill are sure to be minimal, while the impact for Californians in need would be enormous.

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 Assembly Appropriations Committee
Allegra Kim, Consultant Assembly Appropriations Committee
Joe Shinstock, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus