

## MEMORANDUM

**Date:** January 28, 2010

**To:** All House Members

**From:** Representative Frank Burns

**Subject:** Co-Sponsorship of Legislation: Oncology Parity (HB 1865 from 2009-10 Session)

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In the near future, I will be re-introducing House Bill 1865 from last session which was voted unanimously off the House floor. This legislation provides for equal access to chemotherapy treatments that are utilized in treating cancer patients. The bill will eliminate artificial barriers that have been created because different forms of chemotherapy may be covered under different segments of an insured benefit plan. This fragmented coverage means that a patient may experience significantly different out of pocket costs based on how their treatment is administered. This difference has no relationship to how much the therapy costs or how effective it may be.

The legislation recognizes the advances made by science in the treatment of cancer, and will provide an opportunity to reduce health care costs since alternative treatment protocols are more likely to provide cures for cancer patients.

Legislation of this type has been enacted into law in Oregon, Indiana, Iowa, Hawaii, and Vermont and is being considered in other states as well.

If you would like to co-sponsor this important legislation, please contact Marianne Spizzirri at [mspizzir@pahouse.net](mailto:mspizzir@pahouse.net).

Previous Co-Sponsors: DeLUCA , BELFANTI , BISHOP , BOBACK , BRADFORD, BRIGGS, D. COSTA, DONATUCCI , FRANKEL , FREEMAN , GALLOWAY , GERBER , GOODMAN, GRUCELA , HALUSKA , HARHART , HENNESSEY , HESS , HORNAMAN , JOHNSON, JOSEPHS , KORTZ , KULA , MAHONEY , McGEEHAN , MURPHY, PALLONE , PHILLIPS , QUINN , READSHAW , REICHLEY , SABATINA , SANTONI , SIPTROTH , K. SMITH , SOLOBAY , R. TAYLOR , WALKO , YOUNGBLOOD , MENSCH , MURT , GIBBONS , BOYLE, HOUGHTON and WAGNER