

ALLIANCE FOR
BREAST CANCER POLICY

July 6, 2026

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito
Chair

Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related
Agencies

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin
Ranking Member

Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related
Agencies

Dear Chair and Ranking Member,

On behalf of the Alliance for Breast Cancer Policy, the undersigned member organizations write to request your support for America's cancer registries in the FY 2027 appropriations process.

The Alliance for Breast Cancer Policy is a coalition of organizations that advocate for patient-centered, evidence-based policy solutions to improve breast cancer prevention, detection, treatment, and survivorship.

The need for robust cancer surveillance has never been more pressing. Nearly 320,000 new cases of breast cancer are expected to be diagnosed and more than 42,000 people are projected to die from the disease in the United States in 2025 alone. Access to affordable, timely detection and treatment can save lives, significantly reduce the burden on patients and the health care system, and improve health care efficiency while reducing overall costs.

In 2026, an estimated 2 million people will be diagnosed with cancer in the United States. Together, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) National Program of Cancer Registries (NPCR) and the National Cancer Institute's (NCI) Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Program collect data covering nearly 100 percent of the U.S. population. These data provide critical insights into cancer incidence, prevalence, screening effectiveness, treatment outcomes, survivorship, and mortality trends. Researchers, clinicians, policymakers, and patient advocates rely on these data to guide evidence-based decisions, identify disparities in care, measure progress, and project future needs.

The Alliance for Breast Cancer Policy strongly supports continued investment in cancer surveillance infrastructure and believes these registries should be modernized to capture more comprehensive information, including cancer recurrence and progression to metastatic disease.

Enhanced data collection would provide a deeper understanding of breast cancer outcomes and help inform policies and interventions that improve patient care across the continuum.

The CDC's NPCR and NCI's SEER Program remain the nation's only comprehensive and reliable sources of population-based cancer surveillance data. Consistent and robust support for these registries is essential to advancing cancer prevention, treatment, and research. The Alliance joins the broader cancer community in urging Congress to provide \$63.4 million for the CDC's National Program of Cancer Registries. Additionally, we support report language directing that funding for NCI's SEER Program be maintained or increased as necessary to sustain nationwide cancer surveillance activities.

Despite the increase in funding Congress provided to NCI for FY 2026, SEER registries have experienced significant reductions in contract funding under the new contract cycle that began on May 1, 2026. Over the last 15 months, funding levels for SEER registries have been reduced by approximately 20 percent. While state and regional registries continue to work diligently to fulfill their responsibilities, these reductions limit their ability to carry out critical public health functions. Importantly, these are not traditional research grants but operational contracts that support longstanding federal responsibilities and have served as a cornerstone of the nation's cancer surveillance infrastructure for nearly 50 years.

Congress must fully fund NPCR and SEER to ensure that the United States does not lose ground after decades of progress in the fight against cancer. Current and future cancer patients are counting on these systems to provide the data needed to understand trends, guide research, improve treatment, and inform policies that ultimately save lives.

Thank you for your consideration. If you have any questions, please contact Molly Guthrie at mguthrie@komen.org.

Sincerely,

American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
Alliance for Women's Health and Prevention
Cancer Support Community
Check for a Lump
FORCE: Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered
HealthyWomen
Lobular Breast Cancer Alliance Inc.
Male Breast Cancer Global Alliance
METAvivor
National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)
National Consortium of Breast Centers
National Comprehensive Cancer Network
Prevent Cancer Foundation
Susan G. Komen
The Latino Cancer Institute
Tigerlily Foundation
Triage Cancer
Unite for HER
Young Survival Coalition