

May 2, 2022

The Honorable Brian Higgins
U.S. House of Representatives
2459 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Brian Fitzpatrick
U.S. House of Representatives
271 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Derek Kilmer
U.S. House of Representatives
2059 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mike Kelly
U.S. House of Representatives
1707 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Higgins, Fitzpatrick, Kilmer, and Kelly:

On behalf of the more than 82,000 members of the American College of Surgeons (ACS), thank you for your introduction of H.Res.997 - *Recognizing the 100th anniversary of the American College of Surgeons Commission on Cancer and the importance of Commission on Cancer-accredited programs in ensuring comprehensive, high-quality, patient-centered cancer care*. This year marks the 100th anniversary of the ACS Commission on Cancer (CoC), a consortium of more than 50 cancer-related organizations dedicated to improving survival and quality of life for cancer patients through standard setting. We appreciate your recognition of this significant occasion and thank you for your ongoing work on behalf of the cancer community.

Established in 1922, the multidisciplinary CoC establishes standards to ensure quality, multidisciplinary, and comprehensive cancer care delivery in health care settings; conducts surveys in health care settings to assess compliance with those standards; collects standardized data from CoC-accredited health care settings to measure cancer care quality; uses data to monitor treatment patterns and outcomes and enhance cancer control and clinical surveillance activities; and develops effective educational interventions to improve cancer prevention, early detection, cancer care delivery, and outcomes in health care settings. Today, there are more than 1,500 CoC-accredited cancer programs in the United States and Puerto Rico, which care for approximately 70% of newly diagnosed cancer patients.

As we celebrate the centennial of the CoC, we thank you for your continued commitment to advancing cancer research, prevention, education, and treatment. We look forward to continuing to work with you on this important cause.

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Sincerely,



Patricia L. Turner, MD, MBA, FACS
Executive Director