



October 2, 2023

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
U.S. House of Representatives
2413 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

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

Dear Representatives DeLauro and Fitzpatrick:

On behalf of the more than 88,000 members of the American College of Surgeons (ACS), I would like to express our strong support for the *Find it Early Act* (H.R. 3086). This important legislation would require health insurance plans to cover screening and diagnostic breast imaging, including mammograms, ultrasounds and breast ultrasounds, and MRIs with no cost-sharing for patients.

In March 2023, the Food and Drug Administration announced it would roll out its breast density notification rule, which would require providers to notify mammography patients with dense breasts of their status and the potential need for further screening to detect any breast cancer, beginning in 2024. In May 2023, the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) issued new recommendations for mammography screening for breast cancer that lowered the age at which people should start screening from 50 to 40 years old. However, the USPSTF did not provide a specific recommendation that individuals with dense breasts receive additional screening, such as ultrasounds or MRIs. Therefore, many insurance plans are not required to cover additional screening for people with dense breasts.

Because many insurance plans do not cover additional types of screening needed due to breast density, family history, or for any other reason, many patients may forego these tests and risk later stage diagnosis. A delay can have serious consequences. Breast cancer found at an early stage has a 5-year survival rate of 99%, whereas breast cancer found at a later stage has 5-year survival rate of under 30%. We urge Congress to pass the *Find it Early Act* to increase access to breast cancer screening and avoid preventable deaths.

Thank you for your efforts and leadership on this important issue. We look forward to working with you to ensure enactment of this legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "P. Turner", written over a thin yellow horizontal line.

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

facs.org

CHICAGO HEADQUARTERS
633 N. Saint Clair Street
Chicago, IL 60611-3295
T 312-202-5000
F 312-202-5001
E-mail: postmaster@facs.org

WASHINGTON OFFICE
20 F Street NW, Suite 1000
Washington, DC 20001
T 202-337-2701
F 202-337-4271
E-mail: ahp@facs.org