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nevadacancercoalition.org

April 21, 2025

The Honorable Elaine Marzola
Chair, Assembly Commerce and Labor Committee
Legislative Building
401 S. Carson Street
Carson City, Nevada 89701
AsmCL@asm.state.nv.us

RE: Support for SB 387 – Revises provisions relating to the prevention and early detection of lung cancer.

Dear Chair Marzola and Members of the Committee:

Nevada Cancer Coalition (NCC) supports SB 387 in reducing barriers to lung cancer screening and diagnosis in effort to find cancer earlier when it is easier to treat, and ultimately to save lives.

Lung cancer remains Nevada's #1 cancer killer, taking the lives of more people each year than colorectal and breast cancer combined. According to the American Cancer Society, an estimated 1,800 Nevadans will be diagnosed and 940 will die of lung cancer in 2025.

Data from the National Lung Screening Trial shows that the use of newer tools – low-dose CT or LDCT – and evidence-based screening recommendations can result in a 20% relative reduction in mortality from lung cancer. However, effective uptake of this screening method is hampered by awareness, access, and cost. A Nevada-based study conducted by researchers at Desert Radiology and Mountain View Hospital in Las Vegas found that 24% of study participants weren't aware of low-dose CT screening and 17% said cost was a barrier to screening.

Nevada Revised Statutes provides protection and coverage for insured patients for evidence-based breast, cervical, colorectal, and prostate cancer screenings. SB 387 would create parity for lung cancer screening in Nevada statute and improve access to this potentially life-saving medical care.

NCC's vision is simple - healthy communities across Nevada with equitable access to quality cancer care and support for every human being. Providing reliable, equitable access to cancer screenings is critical to reducing the burden of cancer in Nevada, in our communities, and in our families.

We strongly urge your support of SB 387 and access to this critical screening for lung cancer.

Sincerely,

Cari Herington, MBA
Executive Director