

**HOUSE
RESOLUTION No. ____**

Introduced by: Hasler

A RESOLUTION to urge cooperation to improve cancer outcomes and develop consensus guidelines for health care coverage of routine patient care costs associated with oncology clinical trials.

Whereas, The American Cancer Society estimates that 30,000 Indiana residents will be diagnosed with cancer this year;

Whereas, Indiana ranks 17th among men and 13th among women for overall cancer deaths in the United States;

Whereas, Cancer clinical trials offer patients the opportunity to obtain new treatments and may be the only therapeutic options available for seriously ill cancer patients;



Whereas, Major advancements in cancer prevention and treatment are the result of quality clinical research;

Whereas, Patients and providers are reluctant to participate in clinical trials without assurance of health plan coverage;

Whereas, Approved cancer clinical trials are carefully designed treatment protocols that require external scientific oversight and institutional review board approval;

Whereas, In contrast to the continuum of clinical trials, there is widespread ad hoc treatment that is uncontrolled, single patient oriented, and based on the chance occurrence that a given regimen will work;

Whereas, By not covering the routine patient care costs for participation in cancer clinical trials, there is unwitting support for ad hoc care that may have no value or be futile;

Whereas, This constraint results in great expense and provides no answers to pressing current questions regarding treatment for patients whose cancer has failed to respond to standard therapy or for which no effective standard therapy exists; and

Whereas, Both those who fight cancer and those who finance the battle against cancer share a concern for patient care and for the ultimate elimination of this deadly and costly disease: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives urges
2 those who fight cancer and those who finance the battle against cancer,
3 including cancer care providers, payers, and their accounts, patient
4 advocates, and legislators work cooperatively to discuss and resolve
5 important health care issues related to the provisions and financing of
6 clinical trials.

7 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
8 Representatives transmit a copy of this resolution to the American



- 1 Cancer Society, which has committed to initiating dialogue and
- 2 cooperation on this initiative.

