



December 5, 2018

The Honorable Tina Smith  
United States Senate  
309 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Jerry Moran  
United States Senate  
521 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Smith and Senator Moran:

On behalf of the more than 1.3 million Americans living with a blood cancer diagnosis, The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS) is proud to support the Cancer Drug Parity Act. This legislation will improve the ability of cancer patients to access the treatments recommended by their physicians by ensuring that cancer patients experience the same cost-sharing for all cancer treatments, including oral medicines, regardless of how these treatments are administered.

LLS is the world's largest voluntary health organization dedicated to fighting blood cancer. Our mission is to cure leukemia, lymphoma, Hodgkin's disease and myeloma, and improve the quality of life of patients and their families. Since 1949, LLS has invested more than \$1.2 billion in groundbreaking research, funding nearly all of today's most promising advances. LLS is changing the landscape of cancer with more than 300 active research projects that explore different avenues of new and adventurous research. LLS is also the leading source of free, highly specialized blood cancer information, education and support for patients, survivors, families and healthcare professionals.

In recent years, innovation in precision medicine has transformed the landscape of cancer care, paving the way for more cancer treatments that are administered by patients themselves, including oral therapies. Today, many cancer patients rely on these oral drugs as the only treatment available to fight their cancer. Unfortunately, insurance benefit design has not kept pace with the development of these new self-administered treatments, leaving patients with burdensome out-of-pocket costs for some drugs. Patients who rely on an oral drug to fight their cancer often face hundreds or thousands of dollars in cost-sharing to access their treatment. By ensuring equality of insurance coverage for all cancer treatments, the Cancer Drug Parity Act will eliminate a key financial barrier that prevents many cancer patients from accessing breakthrough treatments that could save their lives.

Thank you again for your leadership on behalf of all cancer patients. We look forward to working with you to move the Cancer Drug Parity Act forward. Please contact Sarah Milberg, Senior Manager of Federal Affairs, at [sarah.milberg@lls.org](mailto:sarah.milberg@lls.org) or 202.969.1809 with any questions about this legislation or any issue impacting the blood cancer community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Louis J. DeGennaro".

Louis J. DeGennaro, PhD  
President & CEO  
The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society

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**BEATING  
CANCER  
IS IN  
OUR BLOOD.**

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