

Blood Cancer United

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Chair Gu and members of the Senate Committee on Artificial Intelligence & Emerging Tech,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide written testimony in support of SB 2010, The Transparency and Accountability in Artificial Intelligence Use by Health Insurers to Manage Coverage and Claims Act

Blood Cancer United's (formerly The Leukemia and Lymphoma Society) mission is to cure blood cancer and improve the quality of life of all patients and their families. In light of this mission, Blood Cancer United supports legislative efforts to increase transparency, accountability, and patient protection in the usage of artificial intelligence (AI) and other automated decision-making systems in healthcare and health insurance decision-making.

AI has the potential to transform healthcare by improving patient care, streamlining administrative processes, and reducing costs. However, integrating AI into healthcare raises concerns about data privacy, patient safety, and the risk of worsening health disparities if not implemented carefully. To deploy AI tools responsibly, it is crucial to ensure appropriate safeguards are in place to protect patients from adverse outcomes.

Proprietary software, like AI tools that can contain biases in algorithms, used as the sole basis to deny, reduce, terminate, or fail to cover healthcare for Rhode Islanders, should be transparent, fair to all, accountable, and have a degree of human interaction and oversight as outlined in SB 2010. Positive steps contained in SB 2010 include comprehensive data, privacy, and security measures that are disclosed and outlined. Continuous quality monitoring and establishing transparent best practices will help pave the way forward, while independent audits will help ensure that AI systems remain safe and effective over time.

SB 2010 represents critical steps to ensure proper guardrails that ensure AI tools are used carefully, ethically, and transparently, while prioritizing patient safety and meaningful access to care. It is a positive step that ensures AI benefits all Rhode Islanders, not just a select few.

Thank you for your support for SB 2010.

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