



## American Cancer Society, Florida Division 2010 State Legislative Agenda

As of November 12, 2009

The American Cancer Society, Florida Division, helps achieve its mission through advocacy using a focused legislative agenda. The annual agenda is based on the Division's strategic plan and annual goals. The Florida Division, which is comprised of more than 200,000 volunteers in the state, produces a legislative agenda which defines the annual top priority initiatives, appropriations requests, and other issues that support the American Cancer Society's mission.

### Top Priority Issues

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**Biomedical Research** — ACTIVELY SUPPORT measures that will increase Florida's capacity for research and treatment, including clinical trials, especially measures that generate a substantial state investment in Florida's research infrastructure. ACTIVELY SUPPORT reauthorization of the James and Esther King Biomedical Research Program and the Bankhead-Coley Cancer Research Program, with a peer-reviewed and competitive grant process being the basis for program funding allocations.

**Tobacco Prevention and Education** — ACTIVELY SUPPORT the continued, full implementation of Article X, Section 27 of the Florida Constitution, as intended by the voters.

### Other Substantive Issues

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**Breast Cancer** — SUPPORT measures which evidence clearly indicates an increase in access to mammography for women, consistent with ACS guidelines, as well as measures that ensure adequate insurance coverage for procedures related to breast cancer screening and treatment.

**Cancer Clinical Trials** — SUPPORT measures that will ensure that patients will not lose insurance coverage for the routine costs of their treatment by virtue of being enrolled in a cancer clinical trial. Also SUPPORT measures that will enhance accrual rates in cancer clinical trials.

**Cancer Drugs** – SUPPORT measures that benefit cancer patients with regards to choices between infused (IV) and oral chemotherapy drugs.

**Colon Cancer Screening** — SUPPORT measures that will require all health insurance providers in the state of Florida to cover the full range of colorectal cancer screenings, including colonoscopies, with reasonable out-of-pocket expenses, consistent with American Cancer Society screening guidelines.

**Federal Cancer-Related Issues** — SUPPORT the efforts of the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN) to advance measures which facilitate the organization's mission, including access to health care and other priority federal initiatives that arise.

**Florida Clean Indoor Air Act** — SUPPORT the best interest of public health through the implementation and enforcement of statutes that implement smoke-free enclosed indoor workplace policies, as directed by Article X, Section 20 of the Florida Constitution. SUPPORT funding for the enforcement of smoke-free workplace policies. SUPPORT elimination of s. 386.209, F.S., which currently precludes local governments from adopting more stringent smoking-related ordinances that would benefit public health.

**Medicaid** – SUPPORT policy and appropriations measures that fully restore eligibility and funding for the state's Medically Needy and MEDS-AD Programs.

**Prostate Cancer** — SUPPORT measures that increase access to the full range of prostate cancer screening and treatment for men, consistent with ACS guidelines, as well as measures that ensure adequate insurance coverage for procedures related thereto.

**Tobacco Product Pricing** — SUPPORT measures that would increase the cost of cigarettes, with priority given to health care budget issues in the expenditure of new net revenues generated.

**Human Papiloma Virus Vaccine** — MONITOR legislative activity relating to vaccinations against the human papiloma virus (HPV), and measures which help educate and promote the safe and effective use of any related vaccine to prevent cervical cancer and other related conditions, according to American Cancer Society guidelines.