

The Screening for Communities to Receive Early and Equitable Needed Services (SCREENS) for Cancer Act

Led by Senators Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) and Susan Collins (R-ME)

A bipartisan bill to reauthorize the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (NBCCEDP) through 2030, cosponsored by Senator Cortez Masto.

An estimated 319,750 people in the U.S. will be diagnosed with breast cancer and nearly 43,000 will die from the disease this year alone. Since 1991, the National Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program (NBCCEDP), a partnership between the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and state departments of health, has provided lifesaving breast and cervical cancer screening and diagnostic services to more than six million women who are low-income, uninsured and underinsured who do not qualify for Medicaid.

NBCCEDP has a proven record of cancer detection, detecting nearly 80,000 breast cancers and over 25,000 premalignant breast lesions. The program also provides public education, outreach, patient navigation and care coordination to increase breast and cervical cancer screening rates and reach underserved populations. Without access to early detection programs, many people who are uninsured are forced to delay or forgo screenings, which could lead to late-stage breast cancer diagnoses.

The SCREENS for Cancer Act would reauthorize the NBCCEDP for the first time in more than a decade to help ensure that the program reaches more eligible women. This reauthorization would provide flexibility to NBCCEDP grantees, allowing for a greater emphasis on implementing innovative evidence-based interventions and aggressive outreach to underserved communities through media, peer educators and patient navigators. The bill authorizes \$235 million per year for FY26 through FY30.

The SCREENS for Cancer Act is endorsed by the Alliance for Women's Health and Prevention, American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, American Indian Cancer Foundation, Berm Foundation to Defeat Breast Cancer, Cancer Support Community, Check for a Lump, FORCE: Facing Our Risk of Cancer Empowered, Foundation for Black Women's Wellness, Living Beyond Breast Cancer, Men Supporting Women with Cancer, NAACP, National Comprehensive Cancer Network, National Consortium of Breast Centers, Oncology Nursing Society, Prevent Cancer Foundation, SHARE Cancer Support, Society of Breast Imaging, Susan G. Komen, Tigerlily Foundation, Triage Cancer, Triple Negative Breast Cancer Foundation, and the Young Survival Coalition.