



**Re: Support SB 142 and HB 272; Access To Oral Cancer Treatments**

Dear members of the House Health & Social Services and State Affairs committees;

AIM at Melanoma is the largest international melanoma foundation focused on melanoma research, education, awareness, and legislation. AIM urges you to support SB 142 and HB 272, which would ensure that cancer patients have access to oral anticancer treatments that are covered by their health plan or insurance.

Melanoma is the fastest growing cancer in the United States and worldwide. If not caught early, melanoma is known to be the most deadly of all skin cancers. Some of the most promising new FDA-approved melanoma treatments are oral treatments. For melanoma patients who test positive for the BRAF mutation, about 50% of late stage melanoma patients, one of the standards of care is to be treated with one of these oral treatments.

Given the choice, patients typically prefer to take oral drugs as opposed to an infusion due to the comfort, convenience and efficacy of oral medicines. However, in many cases, oral treatments are cost prohibitive because of the substantial co-pays and deductibles. Patients, families and their medical providers should be making treatment decisions based on what's best for the patient, not because of the cost.

For these reasons, AIM urges you to support this life-saving measure that would provide access to all appropriate treatments for cancer patients.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

*Samantha Guild*

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**AIM at Melanoma**

*Reshaping the Future Together*

**916-706-0059**