

THE NEW ENGLAND COUNCIL

July 24, 2025

Dear _____:

I write to you today in support of Congressional efforts to advance early detection and diagnosis in the healthcare industry. As you know, the New England Council is a non-partisan alliance of businesses, academic and health institutions, and public and private organizations throughout New England. Our mission is to promote economic growth and a high quality of life in the region, and it is with that background that I urge you to consider supporting efforts to promote early detection, such as [S.339/H.R. 842](#) - the Nancy Gardner Sewell Medicare Multi-Cancer Early Detection Screening Coverage (MCED) Act.

Data suggests that patients have a greater likelihood of surviving severe diagnoses when identified at an early stage. Additionally, early detection also results in lower health care costs compared to diagnosing at later stages. However, while Medicare currently covers numerous regular recommended screening tests, these tests alone are not enough to help identify many types of cancer in their earliest stage. The Council and our members feel as though patients and their families need every tool available to help screen for life altering conditions.

Fortunately, scientific and technological breakthroughs are providing new avenues to identify diseases earlier. However, Congressional support is paramount to ensure that these newly available screenings are available and affordable to Medicare patients. Specifically, the MCED Act seeks to allow Medicare to cover MCED tests in a timely manner following FDA approval and evidence of clinical benefit. Currently, most vulnerable patients could face years-long waits to access the latest innovations in cancer detection.

The MCED Act has enjoyed the bi-partisan, bi-cameral support from over 300 members of Congress, including many from New England, as well as hundreds of patient advocacy organizations across the U.S. The New England Council believes that the MCED Act can play a pivotal role in addressing public health across the region and the country, and we strongly urge you and your colleagues to consider supporting or becoming a co-sponsor for policies like MCED that can change the future of cancer in this country. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Sean Malone on my staff at smalone@newenglandcouncil.com.

Sincerely,

The New England Council

98 North Washington Street, Suite 301 • Boston, Massachusetts 02114 • (617) 723-4009
1411 K Street, NW, Suite 700 • Washington, DC 20005 • (202) 547-0048
www.newenglandcouncil.com

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James T. Brett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" and last name "Brett" clearly legible, and "T." as a small initial between them.

James T. Brett
President & CEO
The New England Council

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