

# About the Access to Breast Cancer Diagnosis Act

Millions of people in the U.S. can access mammogram screenings at no cost. But when follow-up diagnostic or supplemental imaging is needed, patients can face hundreds, even thousands of dollars in out-of-pocket costs.

For years, this financial barrier has delayed diagnosis and risked lives. The newly reintroduced **Access to Breast Cancer Diagnosis, or ABCD, Act** addresses this issue by requiring federally regulated health plans to cover diagnostic and supplemental breast imaging—with no out-of-pocket costs to patients.



## Why the ABCD Act is Critical

The ABCD Act would make diagnostic imaging affordable and accessible for all, leading to:



### Fewer patients lost to follow-up.

In 2024, 1.1 million women delayed necessary diagnostic imaging due to cost. Over 375,000 women said they would skip future mammograms for fear of costs. By eliminating out-of-pocket costs for breast imaging, the ABCD Act encourages women to seek the answers they need without delay.



### Less discrepancy among patient care and outcomes.

Black women face higher rates of late diagnosis, while Hispanic women and those with annual incomes under \$35,000 are more likely to miss follow-up care due to cost. By eliminating out-of-pocket costs for imaging, the ABCD Act gives all patients a chance to receive life-saving screening.



### More young women getting answers early.

Despite the increasing rates of women developing breast cancer at an earlier age, young women with high-deductible health plans are more likely to skip additional testing. With breast imaging fully covered, even under high-deductible health plans, women's choice of insurance plan won't impact their access to necessary imaging.

## State Legislatures Have Paved the Way

To date, 31 states have passed laws eliminating patient cost sharing for diagnostic or supplemental imaging under state-regulated plans. Data show this policy change has had a negligible impact on health insurance premiums.



Breast cancer won't wait.  
Neither should coverage  
for life-saving screening.



ALLIANCE FOR  
BREAST CANCER POLICY