

July 30, 2026

The Honorable Ronald Mariano
Speaker of the House
State House
Boston, MA 02133

The Honorable Aaron Michlewitz
Chairman, House Committee on Ways and Means
State House
Boston, MA 02133

RE: Support for Amendment #8 to S3141 - Patient Access to Biomarker Testing to Provide Appropriate Therapy

Dear Speaker Mariano and Chairman Michlewitz:

On behalf of MassBio and our over 1,700 members, I respectfully express our support for **Amendment #8 to S3141 - Patient Access to Biomarker Testing to Provide Appropriate Therapy**, which would ensure insurance coverage for biomarker testing and provide holistic benefits to patients and the overall healthcare system.

Precision medicine is revolutionizing care, allowing more patients to live longer and healthier lives. For patients who have already been diagnosed with a specific disease (i.e. cancer), biomarker testing identifies markers of mutations in a patient's cells, and the information obtained from these tests can help determine the best treatment plan for a specific patient. Once the mutation is accurately identified, the patient can quickly be matched up with the correct therapy or treatment for them, rather than seeking the best treatment options through trial and error - that is precision medicine.

Patient access to and coverage for biomarker tests is currently fractured, precluding universal access to this valuable testing. In guaranteeing insurance coverage of biomarker testing, this amendment has the potential to help patients and help the Commonwealth achieve our overall health care goals in several ways: ensuring patients have the right therapy for them rather than having to try treatment after costly treatment with no improvement; removing the financial barriers to access to these tests for underserved communities that often do not have the means to purchase them on their own; and allowing an improved quality of life for patients who have access to the proper treatment for their disease with one test. For these reasons, I respectfully ask that you **support Amendment #8**.

Thank you for your time and consideration of MassBio's request. Should you have further questions or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at (617) 674-5100 or kendalle.oconnell@massbio.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'KO' with a stylized flourish.

Kendalle Burlin O'Connell
CEO & President
Massachusetts Biotechnology Council (MassBio)