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The Arizona Legislature  
House Committee on Health and Human Services  
Attn: The Hon. Selina Bliss  
1700 W. Washington Street  
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

February 6, 2026,

Re: Support for AR HB 2617

Chair Bliss, Vice Chair Heap, and Members of the House Committee on Health and Human Services,

My name is Ron Lanton, and I am Government Affairs Director for the American Association of Clinical Urology, Inc. (AACU).

The AACU publicly supports HB 2617, legislation that removes cost barriers to prostate cancer screening for men at high risk for the disease in Arizona. Founded in 1968 by urologists concerned about the government's increasing role in the practice of medicine, the AACU represents more than 3,700 member urologists and urologic societies engaged as advocacy affiliates across the United States. We are dedicated to advancing sound health policy that preserves professional autonomy while supporting timely, high-quality patient care.

HB 2617 addresses a well-documented gap in access to preventive care by eliminating patient cost-sharing for prostate cancer screening in high-risk populations, consistent with evidence-based clinical guidelines. From a clinical perspective, financial barriers discourage screening among men who would benefit most from early detection, contributing to avoidable late-stage diagnoses that are more complex, costly, and difficult to treat.

This legislation is particularly important for African American men and men with a family history of prostate cancer, who face disproportionately higher risks of diagnosis and mortality. Experience from clinical practice and population-level trends demonstrate that equalizing access to screening can mitigate disparities, improve outcomes, and support earlier clinical intervention when treatment is most effective.



*Protecting the political and professional interests of Urology since 1968*



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AACU has seen similar policies enacted in states such as Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Maryland, New York, and Rhode Island. These states have recognized that removing financial barriers to screening promotes appropriate utilization without creating undue burden on health plans, while supporting better long-term outcomes for patients.

The AACU stands with our partners in support of HB 2617 and commends the Arizona Legislature for advancing a policy that aligns clinical evidence with patient access. We respectfully urge the Committee to move this important legislation forward.

Thank you for your consideration. The AACU looks forward to serving as a resource to the Committee and remains available to answer any questions.

Sincerely,

*John Lam, MD*

**John Lam, MD**  
State Advocacy Network Chair  
American Association of Clinical Urologists, Inc.

*C. Mark Jackson, MD*

**C. Mark Jackson, MD**  
President  
American Association of Clinical Urologists, Inc.

*Ron Lanton, Esq.*

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