



American Cancer Society
Cancer Action Network
825 Brook Street
I-91 Tech Center
Rocky Hill, CT. 06067
(203)-379-4850
www.acscan.org

Human Services Committee
March 8, 2016
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network Testimony

SB 313 - AN ACT CONCERNING BIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS

We would like to offer our support to SB 313 - **AN ACT CONCERNING BIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS** and ask that the committee support these important efforts. The emerging field of biologics, biosimilars, and interchangeables brings medicine another step forward in finding cures for many different conditions. The development of biologic drugs has provided cancer patients and their physicians with access to improved therapeutic options and patients from around Connecticut are benefitting.

SB 313 provides a common sense regulation to the ever-expanding field of biologics. These drugs are extremely different in make-up and composition than manufactured pharmaceuticals. Creating what some would simply call a “generic” form of a biologic is also extremely different than the traditional pharmaceutical generic pathway. With such a difference we feel that having a team approach to health care for cancer patients is crucial to provide quality health care for those affected by this deadly disease. Having physician notification within five business days when a biosimilar is used provides the peace of mind that a patient wants during their cancer treatments and ensures a timely and accurate record of any substitution in the event of an adverse reaction.

We urge a Joint Favorable report for SB 313. Thank you for your consideration of this important matter.

The American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN), the nonprofit, nonpartisan advocacy affiliate of the American Cancer Society, supports evidence-based policy and legislative solutions designed to eliminate cancer as a major health problem. ACS CAN works to encourage elected officials and candidates to make cancer a top national priority. ACS CAN gives ordinary people extraordinary power to fight cancer with the training and tools they need to make their voices heard.

Bryte Johnson
Government Relations Director
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network