

Madam Chair Lee and members of the Senate Human Services Committee:

I appreciate the opportunity to share my perspective on SCR 4009. My name is Cori Brothers. I am Radiologist Technologist, currently working at a CT technologist and a Mammographer in Bismarck, North Dakota. I like to say that working as a mammography is not just my profession but it is a my passion. My motivation to work every day as a radiology technologist comes from being a woman, a mother and a daughter. My mother lost her battle 8 years ago in February to Ovarian cancer, that we now know was caused by the BRACA 1 gene, a gene that causes breast cancer. My maternal Grandmother and my Maternal Aunt also had breast cancer, as well as my maternal grandfather having prostate cancer. All cancers directly linked to breast cancer. So I know first had the importance of screening and early diagnosis. My prayer is that no other daughter will have to hold their moms hand as they take their last breaths on this earth.

I get to go work and preform a lifesaving exam knowing that the best chance of surviving breast cancer is early detection. However, only screening mammograms are currently cost free under the Affordable Care Act. This leaves diagnostic breast imaging, as well as supplemental imaging subject to cost sharing requirements. As an mammographer, I have witnessed recommendations for women to have further diagnostic and supplemental imaging exams after undergoing a screening mammogram, yet too many refuse further testing due to the out of pocket expenses and do not complete these critical imaging exams.

As a patient with a long family history of breast cancer it is the current recommendation that I receive 1 screening mammogram and 1 breast MRI yearly. The breast MRI is preventative but is not covered as a screening exam there for subject to cost sharing requirements. Usually costing me around \$1500 out of pocket every year. Please stop making women choose between their health and feeding their families.

I fully support SCR 4009 as amended, regarding SCR 4009 studying whether health insurance should provide coverage for diagnostic and supplemental breast examinations without cost sharing requirements.

Thank you for your time and the opportunity to share my testimony in support of SCR 4009.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Cori Brothers RT (R) (CT) (M) (BD) (ARRT)