

HB/376

Diagnostic and supplemental imaging bill

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I testify to **support** the diagnostic and imaging bill (HB/376) being presented to the House Health and Governmental Operations Committee.

Breast cancer affects almost every household in the State of Maryland and in the United States as a whole. The effect of breast cancer is devastating to the families, friends, and the entire community of the affected individual.

I support this bill because early detection, intervention, adequate diagnosis, and treatment saves lives.

I was diagnosed with stage 2 breast cancer in 2010, the diagnosis was devastating to my young family and my friends, I was lucky to receive the imaging and tests that were necessary for adequate diagnosis and treatment options, because I was employed, and I had health insurance.

There about that time, my girlfriend was diagnosed but was not as lucky as I was because she was self-employed and did not have health insurance prior to her diagnosis. She had to choose which test to undergo based on cost not on necessity. We later lost my friend, and it was devastating.

You, as law makers can make a difference in making sure that regardless of the ability to pay, diagnostic imaging is available to all women/men diagnosed of breast cancer. The families and the affected individuals have already been devastated by the news of breast cancer; they should not have to choose which test to undergo because of cost.

I hope you will vote for and pass this bill.

Thank you for the good work that you do for our great state.

Yours



Titi Ariyo

