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Cancer screening gets a boost from Congress

[Letter](#) | [Trina Radske-Suchan](#) Apr 12, 2026

Congress recently enacted, and the president signed, the Nancy Gardner Sewell Medicare Multi Cancer Early Detection (MCED) Screening Coverage Act as part of this year's bipartisan funding package. The law creates a path for Medicare to cover MCED tests once they are approved by the FDA and CMS determines coverage, with coverage beginning as early as 2028/2029 and phased in by age. This is a major step toward expanding access to innovative screening tools that can help detect many cancers earlier.

We appreciate the bipartisan leadership in both chambers, including members such as Iowa Congresswoman Mariannette Miller Meeks, who championed this policy on behalf of Iowa seniors who face a disproportionately high risk of cancer as they age.

Iowa Community HUB remains committed to advancing equitable cancer prevention and early detection, educating patients and providers, and ensuring our communities have clear, accurate information about when new benefits become available.

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