



**HB 8 Proponent Testimony**  
**Presented by Matthew Freado, MBA, PA-C**  
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**Ohio Association of Physician Assistants (OAPA)**  
**House Health Committee**  
**Chair Jean Schmidt**  
**April 9, 2025**

Chair Schmidt, Vice Chair Deeter, Ranking Member Somani, and members of the House Health Committee, thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 8 introduced by Representative Andrea White.

The Ohio Association of Physician Assistants (OAPA) is proud to add our name and support alongside more than 70 health care and advocacy organizations to support HB 8, a bill that will increase and standardize access to biomarker testing for Ohioans battling many difficult and life threatening diseases. A component of OAPA's mission is to promote quality, accessible, and cost-effective patient care in Ohio, and this bill strongly aligns with that aim.

The scientific and medical evidence supporting the utility and effectiveness of biomarker testing for patients is overwhelming, improving survivorship and quality of life.

The National Cancer Institute at National Institutes of Health defines “precision medicine” as:

*A form of medicine that uses information about a person’s genes, proteins, environment, and lifestyle to prevent, diagnose, or treat disease. In cancer, precision medicine uses specific information about a person’s tumor to help make a diagnosis, plan treatment, find out how well treatment is working, or make a prognosis. Precision medicine may also be used to help determine a person’s risk of developing certain types of cancer. Examples of precision medicine include using targeted therapies to treat specific types of cancer, such as HER2-positive breast cancer, or using tumor marker testing to help diagnose cancer.*

As physician assistants, we recognize that every patient is unique. Utilizing biomarker testing and evidence-based decision-making allows for personalized treatment plans that promote optimal outcomes. This approach benefits patients, providers, and payers by improving clinical effectiveness and operational efficiency. Biomarker testing supports cost-effective care by guiding the selection of the right therapy at the right time, thereby reducing the likelihood of ineffective treatments, unnecessary repeat visits, and avoidable healthcare expenditures.

We urge this committee to support House Bill 8, as it will ensure that Ohioans have access to the most effective medical treatments. Thank you for your time and consideration.