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[Independent cancer care](#)

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For someone diagnosed with cancer, receiving treatment close to home can make all the difference. It means less time on the road and more time recovering with loved ones. That's why community oncology clinics are so important to Texans, allowing them to receive convenient, compassionate care from local physicians.

Unfortunately, that access is at risk.

Changes to Medicare Part B reimbursement – which covers physician-administered drugs, like chemotherapy – could make it harder for independent oncology practices to continue serving their communities. If reimbursement no longer covers the costs of acquiring, storing and administering these complex medications, some clinics may have no choice but to reduce services or close altogether.

And if local clinics disappear, Texas patients will just have to travel farther for care at large hospital systems. That's an added burden for any patient, especially those who live in the most rural corners of our state.

This is why I am grateful to Rep. Marc Veasey for cosponsoring the Protecting Patient Access to Cancer and Complex Therapies Act (H.R. 4299).

This legislation maintains current reimbursement levels for physicians without raising the cost of care for patients. H.R. 4299 protects patient access to high-quality, convenient and affordable cancer care from local oncologists.

Thank you, Rep. Veasey, for recognizing the importance of independent cancer care and helping to protect it.

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