LIVER COALITION™ OF SAN DIEGO

February 18, 2026

The Honorable Lori Wilson
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Suite 8110
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1798 (Wilson) – Support

Dear Assembly Member Wilson,

On behalf of the **Liver Coalition of San Diego**, I am pleased to express our strong support for AB 1798 (Wilson), the *Safeguarding the Biomarkers and Genetic Information Act*. This bill provides essential protections for Californians by prohibiting life and non-health disability insurers from using genetic or biomarker test results for underwriting. We respectfully request your support when this bill comes before you.

With more than 100 known liver diseases—many of them genetic or involving inherited risk—our community relies heavily on biomarker and genetic testing to achieve early detection, guide treatment, and prevent disease progression. Yet under current law, individuals who proactively seek this information may face reduced coverage or increased premiums if their results reach insurers through medical records or other indirect means. These consequences are not only unjust—they undermine public health.

While the federal Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act protects individuals from discrimination in health insurance and employment, it does not extend to life or non-health disability insurance. California's existing framework allows insurers to use genetic testing with consent, but when results are shared inadvertently, those protections disappear. As a result, patients who are trying to understand their health risks may be penalized for doing the right thing.

Genetic and biomarker results indicate *risk*, not certainty. Using them to deny coverage or raise premiums discourages individuals—especially those with a family history of liver disease—from obtaining the very tests that could save their lives. AB 1798 removes this barrier and ensures that Californians are not punished for seeking medically recommended information that supports prevention, early intervention, and better long-term outcomes. For these reasons, the Liver Coalition of San Diego is proud to support AB 1798. Should you have any questions, I can be reached at scott@livercoalition.org.

Sincerely,

Scott Suckow
Executive Director

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