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Senate Bill 1418 Signed Into Law, Expanding Access to Peripheral Artery Disease Screenings in Illinois

Chicago, IL – August 15, 2025 – The Illinois Chapter of the American College of Cardiology, the Association of Black Cardiologists, and advocates across Illinois are proud to announce that Senate Bill 1418 has officially been signed into law by Governor J.B. Pritzker.

This groundbreaking legislation mandates insurance coverage for Peripheral Artery Disease (PAD) screenings for all at-risk patients in the State of Illinois.

PAD, a circulatory condition that can lead to severe complications if left undetected, is a leading cause of preventable amputations. By guaranteeing coverage for screening, Senate Bill 1418 ensures that patients at risk will have timely access to care and life-saving interventions. The legislation mandates insurance coverage for PAD screening in individuals over 65 years of age and for younger individuals with risk factors, including smoking, heart disease and diabetes.

"This law is a monumental step forward in the fight against peripheral artery disease," said Dr. Benjamin Freed, Governor of the IL Chapter of The American College of Cardiology. *"Thousands of amputations will be prevented, and countless lives will be saved because patients will now receive the early diagnosis and treatment they deserve."*

PAD affects more than 8 million Americans, including 1 in 10 people over age 40. While leg pain is a common symptom, 40% of people with PAD don't have leg symptoms. PAD occurs when arteries in the leg become narrowed or clogged by plaque buildup, causing less blood flow and increasing patients' risk of heart attack, stroke or limb loss. Learn more at Cardiosmart.org/PAD.

The passage of this legislation represents years of dedicated advocacy, collaboration, and commitment from healthcare providers, patient advocates, and policymakers.

The Illinois Chapter of the American College of Cardiology, the Association of Black Cardiologists extend its deepest gratitude to all who worked tirelessly to champion this initiative and to the lawmakers who recognized the urgent need to expand access to PAD screening.

The American College of Cardiology Illinois Chapter (ACC-Illinois) is a statewide leader empowering a community of over 1,800 cardiovascular professionals across Illinois to create a world where science, knowledge and innovation optimize patient care and outcomes. ACC-Illinois is dedicated to promoting optimal cardiovascular care and disease prevention through public and professional education, promotion of research, leadership in the development of standards and guidelines and the formulation of health care policy. Learn more at www.ILACC.org or connect on social media at @IllinoisACC.

The American College of Cardiology (ACC) is a global leader dedicated to transforming cardiovascular care and improving heart health for all. For more than 75 years, the ACC has empowered a community of over 60,000 cardiovascular professionals across more than 140 countries with cutting-edge education and advocacy, rigorous professional credentials, and trusted clinical guidance. From its world-class *JACC* Journals and NCDR registries to its Accreditation Services, global network of Chapters and Sections, and CardioSmart patient initiatives, the College is committed to creating a world where science, knowledge and innovation optimize patient care and outcomes. Learn more at www.ACC.org or connect on social media at @ACCinTouch.

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