



Genetic Testing Party Pros / Cons & Concerns

Genetic testing analyzes DNA to identify disease-related variants. It is valued for enabling earlier diagnosis, more precise care, and better access to lifesaving treatments.

Party	Pros (Arguments Supporting Genetic Testing Policies)	Cons / Concerns (Arguments Raising Caution for Rare Disease Patients)
Democrats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earlier diagnosis through genetic testing helps reduce diagnostic delays (“diagnostic odyssey”) for rare disease patients. • Supports policies that expand insurance coverage, newborn screening add-ons, and access to advanced testing (exome/genome). • Promotes equity by ensuring underserved populations have access to rare disease diagnostics. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strong concerns about privacy, data security, and potential misuse of genetic information. • Cost concerns for states or Medicaid programs when broad genomic testing is mandated. • Worries that testing access without guaranteed follow-up care or coverage can worsen inequities.
Republicans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supports patient choice and access to innovative genetic technologies that help families make informed decisions. • Early diagnosis aligns with pro-family approaches and can reduce long-term healthcare spending for rare conditions. • Favorable to state flexibility for implementing genetic testing programs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Concern about government mandates requiring broad coverage of expensive genomic tests. • Skepticism toward centralized genetic data collection or government-held genetic databases. • Potential cost impacts on private insurance markets and state budgets for high-cost testing.