



The Honorable Susan R. Donovan
Chairwoman
House Committee on Health and Human Services
82 Smith Street, House Lounge
Providence, Rhode Island 02903

RE: Support for H5173, H5302, AND H5026– ACTS RELATING TO INSURANCE -- ACCIDENT
AND SICKNESS INSURANCE POLICIES AND PRESCRIPTION DRUG BENEFITS

Dear Chairwoman Donovan,

Thank you for the opportunity to write with support for bills H5173, H5302, and H5026 - Acts
Relating Insurance – Accident and Sickness Insurance Policies and Prescription Drug Benefits

I am writing to express my support for three proposed bills that address copays and capping medical bills for patients, ensuring affordable access to essential medications and equipment. The first bill requires group health plans and health insurance issuers that provide prescription benefits to cover at least one type of glucagon auto-injector, nasal spray, or formulation to treat hypoglycemia, with two glucagon auto-injectors provided every plan year at no copayment or deductible. This measure is crucial for individuals who rely on glucagon to manage severe hypoglycemic episodes, ensuring they have access to life-saving medication without financial barriers. The second bill aims to cap the total amount that a covered person is required to pay for a covered prescription inhaler, prescription device, or prescription equipment to twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per thirty (30) day supply. This cap will alleviate the financial burden on patients with chronic conditions, such as asthma, who require ongoing access to these essential treatments.

Moreover, the third bill proposes to cap the amount that a covered person is required to pay for insulin administration and glucose monitoring equipment and supplies at twenty-five dollars (\$25.00) per thirty (30) day supply or per item when an item is intended to be used for longer than thirty (30) days, and it would prohibit any deductible for the equipment and supplies. This legislation is vital for individuals living with diabetes, who depend on these supplies to manage their condition effectively.

By implementing these caps, we can ensure that patients are not forced to choose between their health and financial stability.

Sincerely,

Eugenio Fernandez
Eugenio Fernandez, Jr.
PharmD, MBA, MPH

CC: Representative John J. Lombardi
Members of the House Committee on Health and Human Services

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