

27 January 2026

The Honorable Susan Donovan Chair, House Committee on Health & Human Services

State House

82 Smith Street

Providence, RI 02903

RE: H7075, H7188

Dear Chair Donovan and members of the Committee:

My name is Emily Markovitz. I was born and raised in Rhode Island and am proud to be raising my daughter here as well. At the age of 4, she was diagnosed with Type 1 Diabetes, for which we received excellent care at Hasbro Children's Hospital. At the time, I was familiar with Type 1 Diabetes, having been raised by with a parent with the same condition. My daughter is lucky to be growing up close to my father, "Diabesties" from the start.

I am writing in support of H7075 and H7188. As the parent and daughter of people living with diabetes, I am all too familiar with the importance of both bills.

**Why do I support H7075?** When my child switched from a Medicaid- to employer-based health insurance, both under the same insurance company, we were told that a nasal spray glucagon was no longer covered at all and that the auto-injector, while covered, was a much higher cost than a formulation which required reconstitution. This medication is used only when my child experiences blood sugar low enough to result in seizure or lack of consciousness. She is an active 10-year-old who loves baseball, basketball, dance, and swim. Exercise can drop blood sugars fast and any of these important childhood activities could cause a life-threatening low. If we had chosen the cost-effective option, whatever adult was around my child during this episode would have to carefully follow the written instructions to mix powders together and carefully pull them into a syringe before using it to save her life. It is unconscionable that we would put them and her in that situation when there are multiple faster, easier alternatives readily available.

**Why do I support H7188?** Type 1 Diabetes is a lifelong autoimmune condition. As far into the future as we can see now, every day of her life, my daughter will require not only insulin, but syringes, pump supplies, lancet drums, blood strips, and continuous glucose monitoring supplies. This doesn't include the costs for alcohol wipes, emergency glucose tablets, and emergency glucagon. Capping the monthly supply costs on each item is crucial to keeping the total costs within a reasonable amount for financial stability.



Emily Markovitz

Parent & Daughter of people living with Type 1 Diabetes

East Providence, Rhode Island