

January 29, 2026

[submitted electronically via: HouseHealthandHumanServices@rilegislature.gov]

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

82 Smith Street

Providence, RI 02903

RE: H7075 – AN ACT RELATING TO INSURANCE – ACCIDENT AND INSURANCE
POLICIES – THE MATTHEW FEDERICO DIABETIC SAFETY ACT

Dear Chair Donovan and members of the Committee:

My name is Kristina Ward, a current resident in the State of Rhode Island and a practicing pharmacist since 1994. I strongly support the proposed H7075 bill which would ensure that patients with diabetes could obtain the life-saving treatment for low blood sugar, glucagon, at no cost. The bill allows for up to two glucagon devices per patient and each route of administration (e.g., subcutaneous injection, nasal spray) to be covered since products have different approvals based on age.

Rhode Island is a small state, and our pharmacy community is very strong. I knew Matt Federico and his struggles to control his Type 1 diabetes. His death from an insulin pump malfunction which gave him an insulin dose 10-times higher than what he should have received highlights the need for all patients with diabetes to have access to glucagon without excessive delays or cost. Roadblocks that delay or limit access to glucagon, such as prior approval processes and cost, unnecessarily put patients and residents of this state at risk of even more costly hospitalization and even death, as we unfortunately saw happen to Matt Federico.

In closing, I urge you to strongly support this bill and its intention to save the lives of Rhode Islanders living with diabetes by voting in favor of H7075.

Sincerely,



Kristina E. Ward, PharmD, BCPS

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