

Support - S2877

Dear Senator Murray, and Members of the Senate Committee,

I am writing to express my strong support for Senate Bill S2877, which would cap out-of-pocket costs for essential diabetes equipment used for insulin administration and glucose monitoring. S2877 takes an important and thoughtful approach by capping the cost of a 30-day supply of diabetes equipment at \$25 per item, including devices designed to last longer than 30 days, with the cap applied per item. This structure recognizes how patients access and use diabetes technology while ensuring predictability and affordability for individuals and families managing chronic disease.

Equally important, the bill waives the annual deductible for these supplies, ensuring that cost barriers are not front-loaded at the beginning of the year—when many patients are most vulnerable to delaying or rationing care. These protections are critical for consistent glucose monitoring and safe insulin administration, both of which are foundational to preventing avoidable complications and downstream healthcare costs.

Testimony from the American Diabetes Association underscores the urgency of this legislation, noting that the cost of glucose monitoring supplies can at times exceed the cost of insulin itself. S2877 directly addresses this imbalance and reflects a patient-centered, evidence-based policy response.

With an effective date of January 1, 2027, this bill provides adequate time for implementation while offering clear and immediate direction that Rhode Island is committed to improving affordability and access for people living with diabetes.

I respectfully urge your support for Senate Bill S2877 and thank you for your continued leadership in advancing policies that protect patients, improve health outcomes, and reduce unnecessary financial burdens for Rhode Islanders.

.Sincerely,

Caitlin Kennedy, PharmD, MHA

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