

July 1, 2022

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Speaker of the House
1236 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Senate Majority Leader
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy
House Minority Leader
2468 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Minority Leader
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Pass the Improving Needed Safeguards for Users of Lifesaving Insulin Now (INSULIN) Act

Dear Speaker Pelosi, Minority Leader McCarthy, Majority Leader Schumer and Minority Leader McConnell:

Our organizations represent the overwhelming majority of the nation's diabetes community—a group of more than 37 million Americans who bear a disproportionate share of the nation's medical costs and who account for \$1 in every \$4 spent on health care in the United States today. **We write to respectfully urge you to pass the bipartisan INSULIN Act, which would make insulin more affordable for millions of Americans.**

Without this legislation—which includes rebate incentives and cost-sharing protections for insulin manufacturers to reduce costs and a \$35 monthly copay cap on at least one type of insulin in private insurance and Medicare plans—there is a continued risk that one in four insulin-dependent patients will have to keep rationing their supply, skipping doses and risking their lives because they cannot afford the medication needed to keep them alive. The price of insulin nearly tripled between 2002 and 2013, and the trend upward has continued over the past decade. Lack of access to affordable insulin will only become more dire the longer Congress waits to act to reduce patient costs.

Tens of millions of Americans are counting on you for help. The COVID-19 pandemic made this legislation even more urgent. We know that unmanaged and under-treated diabetes has made our community deeply vulnerable to the worst of the pandemic's outcomes. Tragically, 40 percent of those who have died from COVID-19 have been Americans with diabetes, making the diabetes community 12 times more likely to die of COVID-19 than others. We know that affordable, accessible insulin saves lives.

Time is running out for too many people in our community. Please prioritize Americans with diabetes, and support this thoughtful and comprehensive approach to addressing the key drivers of insulin price increases. We thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

American Diabetes Association
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
American Podiatric Medical Association
Association of Diabetes Care & Education Specialists
Certification Board for Diabetes Care and Education
Children with Diabetes
College Diabetes Network
Diabetes Leadership Council
Diabetes Patient Advocacy Coalition
Endocrine Society
JDRF
National Association of Chronic Disease Directors
National Kidney Foundation