



# INSULIN ACCESS AND AFFORDABILITY: CO-SPONSOR THE INSULIN ACT

WHILE INSULIN WAS DISCOVERED MORE THAN 100 YEARS AGO, THIS LIFESAVING DRUG REMAINS UNAFFORDABLE TO MANY WHO RELY ON IT. **THE ENDOCRINE SOCIETY CALLS ON CONGRESS TO PASS LEGISLATION LOWERING THE COST OF INSULIN FOR PATIENTS.**

## **INSULIN IS A LIFE SAVING MEDICATION:**

Insulin is a lifesaving medication for all people with type 1 diabetes. In addition, more than 7 million people in the United States use insulin to control their blood sugar and avoid life-changing complications, including kidney failure, blindness, amputation, and heart disease.

## **INSULIN PRICES CONTINUE TO RISE:**

**The price of insulin tripled over a 15-year period** and continues to rise making it unaffordable for many who depend on this lifesaving medication. This upward trend has continued over the past decade. In 2021, nearly one in five American adults with diabetes—about 1.3 million people—rationed their insulin to save money, according to a study.

## **ACCESS TO AFFORDABLE INSULIN IS AN URGENT PRIORITY:**

The Endocrine Society represents more than 18,000 physicians and scientists who work to treat and research endocrine disorders like diabetes. While we hear from our members about many different clinical and research issues, the rising out-of-pocket cost of insulin is the one causing the greatest concern for their patients. Our

members frequently learn that because of the high cost of insulin their patients are forced to forgo or ration their prescribed insulin because of cost. People with diabetes who ration or skip insulin treatment suffer the serious side effects of uncontrolled diabetes such as diabetic ketoacidosis, heart attack, or stroke. This can result in preventable hospitalization and even death. **Patients with diabetes cannot afford to wait any longer. Congress must address this issue now.**

## **PASS LEGISLATION LOWERING THE COST OF INSULIN:**

The Senate Diabetes Caucus plans to introduce bipartisan legislation to lower the cost of insulin. **We urge you to co-sponsor the INSULIN Act which would cap out-of-pocket insulin costs for those with private insurance, ensure patients can share in insulin rebates and discounts, and promote competition in the insulin market.**

To co-sponsor this legislation please contact **Vic\_Goetz@shaheen.senate.gov** in Senator Shaheen's office and **Maria\_Olson@collins.senate.gov** in Senator Collins's office.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT  
[ENDOCRINE.ORG/DIABETES](https://www.endocrine.org/diabetes)

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