

October 28, 2021


Dear Representative,

As you and your colleagues are nearing completion of the Build Back Better Act, I write on behalf of the Endocrine Society -- the world's largest professional organization of endocrinologists who care for people with diabetes and scientists who study new treatments -- to urge you to ensure that this legislation allows for government negotiation of insulin prices. We are deeply disturbed with today's reports that the drug pricing components of this bill will not be included in a final agreement and want to remind you that it is critical that this life-saving drug is more affordable for people with diabetes, regardless of their insurer.

This year marks the 100th anniversary of the discovery of insulin, and despite this milestone, insulin remains unaffordable for many who rely on it. For millions of Americans living with diabetes, including all people living with type 1 diabetes, insulin is a *life-saving* drug that must be taken to control blood sugar. Yet, insulin prices have nearly tripled over the past 15 years and continue to increase. Price hikes impact not only Medicare beneficiaries, but people enrolled in private insurance as well. We have created a [collection of patient stories](#) shared by endocrinologists around the country illustrating that people with diabetes continue to suffer due to the high price of insulin and this is literally a matter of life or death. I also am sharing our [position statement](#) with you and a recent [letter signed by several physician and provider organizations](#) urging you to pass legislation to make insulin affordable as soon as possible.

The Build Back Better Act represents the best, and possibly last, opportunity to address the high price of insulin and other prescription drugs in the coming years. We urge you to work with your colleagues to meaningfully address the high price of insulin in the Build Back Better Act since Americans who rely on insulin cannot afford to wait any longer. Thank you for your consideration and leadership on this important issue. If you have any questions, please contact Rob Goldsmith, Director, Advocacy and Policy at rgoldsmith@endocrine.org.

Sincerely,



Carol H. Wysham, MD
President
Endocrine Society