

July 26, 2022

The Honorable Chuck Grassley  
United States Senate  
135 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Grassley:

On behalf of the Endocrine Society, the world's largest professional organization of endocrinologists, I am writing to urge your support for the *Improving Needed Safeguards for Users of Lifesaving Insulin Now (INSULIN) Act*. Our members provide care to the millions of people across the country living with diabetes, including those who rely on insulin to survive. The bipartisan INSULIN Act would take meaningful steps to lower the price of insulin and reduce out-of-pocket costs for patients. The Endocrine Society has [endorsed this legislation](#) because it would provide immediate relief to our patients who have struggled to afford their insulin.

Insulin is a lifesaving drug for millions of people living with diabetes. For all people living with type 1 diabetes, insulin is the only option and must be taken for life. In the United States, more than 7 million people rely on insulin to manage their diabetes. In your state of Iowa, approximately 242,403 adults have been diagnosed with diabetes, with an estimated 18,839 people newly diagnosed each year. Approximately 283,000 children in the United States have been diagnosed with diabetes, which includes 244,000 living with type 1 diabetes. Although insulin is over 100 years old, its price continues to escalate, and it is unaffordable for many people living with diabetes. The price of insulin nearly tripled between 2002 and 2013. More recently, the list price of insulin nearly doubled between 2012 and 2016. The impact of inflation has made this issue even more dire with millions of Americans paying more money for basic necessities including groceries and gasoline.

Patients who rely on insulin need immediate relief now and the INSULIN Act would provide that relief. The legislation would institute a monthly \$35 insulin co-pay cap for people with diabetes who have Medicare or private insurance. The bill would also ensure that patients have access to lower priced insulins without imposing price controls or authorizing government negotiation of prices, but by providing incentives to lower the list price of insulin through rebate reform. This legislation is the culmination of numerous bipartisan congressional hearings and investigations, which raised awareness about this issue and addressed concerns raised by members of Congress on both sides of the aisle, including the influence that rebates have played on the rising cost of insulin. **As a member of the Senate Diabetes Caucus, we urge you to support the INSULIN Act and work with your colleagues**



**to bring this legislation to the Senate floor for a vote *as soon as possible*.** People with diabetes cannot wait any longer.

If you have any questions or we can be of any further assistance, please contact Rob Goldsmith, Director of Advocacy and Policy at [rgoldsmith@endocrine.org](mailto:rgoldsmith@endocrine.org).

Sincerely,

Ursula Kaiser, MD  
President  
Endocrine Society