

Thank you for your time and attention, committee members. I am writing in support of the diabetes medication and supply cap bill outlined by Governor Lamont for this session. The business of profiting significantly off the basic need to stay alive has gone on far too long. Innumerable members of our community have suffered and died due to the often insurmountable costs charged by pharmaceutical and insurance companies together. Capping these costs will immeasurably benefit those who have no choice but to buy insulin and the delivery systems that keep them quite simply from dying. This is not a luxury drug. It was invented over a hundred years ago and hasn't changed significantly since. To charge \$500-\$1000 a month for something that is so cheaply made is deeply immoral. In most countries, insulin can be bought over the counter for the equivalent of a few dollars. The same insulin. For Connecticut to be at the forefront of curbing this problem is progressive and shows how much our legislators are committed to their work and our citizens.

My daughter Kira is one of the citizens this bill is serving. At the age of just 3 years old, she became a type 1 diabetic and will need insulin to stay alive for the foreseeable future. The toll that the costs associated with diabetes take on a family cannot be overstated. I worry if the out of control costs are not curbed if she will be able to take care of herself when she is old enough to do so. Minimum wage jobs do not leave a lot of room for the couple of vials of insulin young adults need to live; we have this chance to think about their futures and the current reality for thousands of Connecticut citizens who depend on diabetes care to live.

I thank you for your time and consideration. I am fully in support of capping insulin and diabetes supply prices, the authorization of pharmacists to provide emergency supplies, and 340b and Medicaid expansion. You will be saving lives and making a difference for so many of us who live in the diabetes community.

Sincerely,

Michell Cheney

Watertown, CT