

Testimony on Proposed Legislation on Capping the Cost of Insulin

CAP THE COST OF INSULIN!

I am predisposed to Diabetes. Both of my parents were diabetic (Type II), and my father died from complications of diabetes in 2016. When I was pregnant with my son, I developed Gestational Diabetes, and again later on when I was pregnant with my daughter. In order to control my high sugar levels during my first pregnancy, I had to shoot myself SEVEN (7) times a day with insulin. And while I was lucky enough to have been covered under my husband's insurance from his union job, our co-pay was even difficult, adding up week after week, and I was tempted to underuse the insulin.

According to the Mayo Clinic, untreated gestational diabetes can result in a baby's death either before or shortly after birth. Just imagine if I had been unable to afford my insulin, let alone having to struggle with my co-pay. If the State of Connecticut does not cap the cost of insulin, more mothers with gestational diabetes and their babies will suffer, or even die.

I urge you to put a cap on the skyrocketing costs of insulin.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Shira Tarantino
Stamford

P.S., This testimony was difficult for me to write because of the personal content. There are many other women out there in CT like me who may have or had similar difficulties, but may not write a public letter like this. Please know that we are here.