

Chairman Lipps, Vice Chair Holmes, Ranking Member Russo, and members of the House Health Committee.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My name is Caylan Fazio and I live in Columbus, Ohio. I am a constituent of Ranking Member Russo.

I am the volunteer chapter leader of Ohio #insulin4all, a patient-led grassroots movement raising awareness of the high cost of insulin and working for increased transparency and long-term solutions. I also live with insulin-dependent type 1 diabetes.

I and the Ohio Chapter of #insulin4all strongly supports HB 37 because it increases access to life-sustaining medications, like insulin, and can drastically lower the cost for those with insurance.

Inability to access insulin and more generally diabetes supplies is a crisis that results in hyperglycemia, long-term complications, greater risk of infection, weakened immune system, and additionally more financial costs, both for those living with the disease and the insurance providers who would need to cover the long-term complications.

These issues are exasperated by the current coronavirus pandemic. People may have unstable incomes, some have lost their jobs.

Rationing insulin is a life-threatening tactic to make your supply last longer. This is incredibly dangerous and can lead to emergency room visits and death. Still a 2018 Yale Study shows that [1 out of 4 people](#) living with insulin-dependent diabetes have rationed their insulin due to its high cost.

Just like a prescription, cost is a barrier to insulin access. With the insurance mandate, HB 37 can help alleviate that cost in emergency access situations.

Please consider my testimony and the views of Ohio #insulin4all and support the passage of House Bill 37. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify. You may contact me by email with any questions you may have.

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