

Dear Chairman Lipps and Members of the Committee:

My name is Stephanie Herndon, I have Gaucher disease, and we live in Holgate, Ohio. My life depends on receiving VPRIV, a treatment made by Shire. This treatment costs approximately \$250,000 per year and our family would never be able to afford it.

Even the cost of co-pays would exceed what our family can spend or completely deplete all of our income. Shire provides a co-pay assistance program that helps us pay for the cost of the treatment's co-pays.

With Shire's financial help, our family is able to: taken on the normal struggles of living during a pandemic without worries about my genetic disorder, not worry about grocery costs, and the burden of living with increased bills and illness.

Without Shire's assistance our lives will dramatically change and I worry about my overall physical and mental health.

I am asking the legislature to please consider our family and all others like us in Ohio and vote to prohibit insurance companies from taking this assistance away from us.

Thank you for listening.

Stephanie Herndon  
121 Chicago Avenue  
Holgate, Ohio 43527