



*A nonprofit advocacy community  
fighting for treatment for all patients*

November 29, 2022

Senator Stephen A. Huffman  
Chairman, Ohio Senate Health Committee  
Ohio Senate

Re: Memorandum in Support of Ohio HB 135

Dear Chairman Huffman, Ranking Member Antonio and Members of the Senate Health Committee:

On behalf of the infusion patients we represent across the state, thank you for your service and commitment to the people of Ohio. IAF is a nonprofit advocacy community and public charity dedicated to ensuring that patients have access to provider-administered therapies for any and all complex diseases. The organization was created to serve as a supportive and inclusive community for the patients receiving these life-changing medications.

Copay assistance, which can come in the form of a copay card or charity cost assistance, allows patients to afford life-saving medications. Copay accumulator programs, on the other hand, prevent assistance from applying to a patient's deductible or out-of-pocket maximum—threatening a patient's ability to afford their medications. While insurers contend that copay assistance steers patients towards higher cost drugs, it must be noted that copay assistance is used in conjunction with drugs that are otherwise covered under a patient's insurance policy.

it should not matter where a patient's payment comes from, as long as it is obtained legally. Just as it should not matter if a family member helps you with your rent or mortgage payment one month. Copay assistance is real money that is given to a patient by a third party to help them afford their medication. Why should patients be denied this assistance, especially when we all know how expensive managing a chronic condition can be?

IAF supports HB 135 and its intention to stop discriminatory copay accumulator adjuster policies that limit how much a copay card or charitable contribution counts towards a patient's out-of-pocket expenses. 16 states have passed legislation banning the use of copay accumulator programs in state-regulated markets, and 15 are currently considering legislation. We ask that you please pass HB 135 to help protect Ohio patients.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kindyl Boyer".

Kindyl Boyer  
Director of Advocacy, Infusion Access Foundation (IAF)

*Together for Treatment.*