

Representative R. Scott Lipps, Chair
Health Committee, Ohio House

Dear Chairman Lipps,

I feel for and with Dan Houdeshell in the loss of his son, Kevin, at a very young age, because he was unable to get insulin over a weekend. This is a painful story, and I'm glad that Mr. Houdeshell pushed through his own pain to address this problem by working on legislation.

As a Type 1 diabetic for 40 years, I am well aware of what is at stake. I have been "lucky" not to have had the problem that Kevin had, of being unable to get insulin, when he knew he needed it. Good health should not depend on "luck"! It should depend on healthcare that is available and responsive to people's needs when and where they need it.

I approve and support this legislation because I hear from my Endocrinologist how often it happens, that she gets regular calls from patients who are without insulin, can't get it because of am Rx has run out, and face outrageous prices that they can't afford, and how they have skimped on insulin to try to make it through.

Passage of Kevin's law is needed and will stop the loss of life in Ohio due to diabetic coma.

Please don't say to Mr. Houdeshell, "This is a Federal Issue, take it up with your members in Congress." This is a local issue, about which you can do something, at least for Ohioans. We need to end this kind of cruel and unusual punishment of our Ohio brothers and sisters. Please don't say to Mr. Houdeshell, "This is another welfare program that we can't afford." What we can't afford is another person dying, especially someone young as his son, who had a lifetime of contributions to make life better for those around him.

Please support HB 37, and pass it out of Committee for a vote on the House Floor.

Sincerely,

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