

55th House District

Avon Lake, Elyria, North Ridgeville (part)
Carlisle Township & Elyria Township
Grafton Village & Sheffield Village

Columbus Office

Vern Riffe Center
77 S. High Street
11th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215-6111
(614) 644-5076
Rep55@ohiohouse.gov
www.ohiohouse.gov



Gayle L. Manning State Representative

Committees

Primary & Secondary Education,
Chair
Commerce & Labor
Correctional Institution Inspection
Committee
Higher Education & Career Readiness

Chairman Huffman, Vice Chair Antani, Ranking Member Antonio, and members of the Ohio Senate Health Committee, thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on HB 37, which would ensure that three emergency refills of a life-saving medication are covered by a patient's insurance.

We often hear that diabetic patients ration their insulin because they cannot get to a doctor, or they are unable to afford their prescriptions. In some cases, diabetic patients experience medical emergencies due to insulin rationing. I worked on legislation in the 131st General Assembly that changed the law to allow pharmacists to dispense a dose of insulin or other life-saving medication in an emergency situation to a patient.

HB 37 builds on my previous legislation. I've heard that even though diabetic patients can get the dose of insulin dispensed by a pharmacist in an emergency situation, many of them are not because it is not covered by insurance, and they cannot afford it. HB 37 seeks to cover emergency refills of life-saving medications as if it were part of the benefit plan. In fact, HB 37 ensures coverage of up to three dispensed emergency doses of insulin or other life-saving drugs in a calendar year. The first emergency refill is a thirty day supply, and the second and third emergency refills cannot exceed a seven day supply. I would like to thank OSMA, OAHP, and PCMA for working with me while the bill was in the House Health Committee on this change relating to the second and third refills.

Many Ohioans are dependent on insulin, and this legislation is just one step forward in increasing access for patients. Once again, thank you for the opportunity to testify. I will entertain questions at this time.