



Connected **for Life**

March 2, 2023

Dear Chair Liebling and Committee Members,

On behalf of the American Diabetes Association (ADA) please accept my thanks for hearing House File (HF) 348 to cap copayments for diabetes medications, supplies, and technology.

HF 348 will have a significant and positive impact on people with diabetes in Minnesota. High out-of-pocket costs reduce medication adherence for people with chronic diseases which leads to complications and increased use of high-cost services.¹ As it stands, 22 states and the District of Columbia have passed laws to cap copayments for insulin and address the unsustainable costs of diabetes. Between 2002 and 2013 the cost of insulin nearly tripled.² When people cannot afford the tools and services needed to manage their diabetes, they scale back or forego the care they need to manage their health.

The bill also addresses the burden of accessing life-changing technology to better manage diabetes. For example, this legislation will help people access continuous glucose monitors (CGM) which provide significant, potentially life-changing benefits for diabetes management and in turn for avoidance or delay of serious complications, hospitalizations, and even death. This technology provides greater information to patients and their health care providers than traditional blood glucose meters do by continuously monitoring an individual's blood glucose level. The information the devices provide can result in better blood glucose management and reduce the risk of complications. Despite the benefits the cost of accessing CGM and insulin pumps has prohibited people from being able to utilize them. An ADA survey found that 15% of people with diabetes who rely on pumps or CGMs delayed refilling needed supplies during the pandemic. For 70% of them, it was due to finances.³

This legislation is critical for people with diabetes, and we ask for your support. If you have questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at ckemp@diabetes.org.

Sincerely,

Carissa Kemp
Director of State Government Affairs

¹ [Evaluation of HF 3592 Cost-Sharing Limits for Prescription Drugs and Related Medical Supplies Prescribed to Treat a Chronic Disease.pdf](#)

² [Insulin and Drug Affordability | ADA \(diabetes.org\)](#)

³ [Insulin and Drug Affordability | ADA \(diabetes.org\)](#)