



The Maryland State Medical Society

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TO: The Honorable Delores G. Kelley, Chair
Members, Senate Finance Committee
The Honorable Clarence K. Lam

FROM: Danna L. Kauffman
Pamela Metz Kasemeyer
J. Steven Wise
Christine K. Krone

DATE: February 9, 2022

RE: **SUPPORT** – Senate Bill 353 – *Health Insurance – Prescription Insulin Drugs – Limits on Copayment and Coinsurance (Insulin Cost Reduction Act)*

The Maryland State Medical Society (MedChi), the largest physician organization in Maryland, **supports** Senate Bill 353. This bill requires a carrier that provides coverage for prescription drugs (including coverage provided through a pharmacy benefits manager) to limit the cumulative amount an insured is required to pay in copayments or coinsurance for a covered prescription insulin drug to no more than \$30 for a 30-day supply, regardless of the amount or type of insulin needed to fill the covered individual's prescriptions.

According to the Maryland Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 10.5 percent of Maryland adults have diabetes and thirty-four percent, or approximately 1.6 million, of Maryland adults have prediabetes. Those with diabetes often need insulin to avoid complications that include kidney failure, blindness, leg or foot amputation, heart attack, stroke, and even death. However, over the years, insulin has continued to drastically increase, forcing many to reduce their dosage or skip their daily dose. For those that are in state-regulated insurance plans, Senate Bill 353 would limit the cost they are paying for their insulin and ensure that insulin is affordable, allowing them to properly manage their diabetes and avoid more costly conditions. Therefore, MedChi supports Senate Bill 353 and urges a favorable vote.

For more information call:

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