

March 21, 2022

Maryland Senate 11 Bladen St. Annapolis, MD. 21401

<u>In Support of HB 1397 / SB 353</u>: Health Insurance – Prescription Insulin Drugs – Insulin Cost Reduction Act

Members of the Maryland Senate's Finance Committee.

We are an organization of military and non-military families with over 1400 members and fully support setting limits on copayments for medically necessary Insulin to \$30 a month contained within HB 1397.

This bill would be a huge help to families that need the most help during these extremely trying times. Especially those that suffer from chronic health conditions that these devices that aid patients fully participate in their health, care, and ongoing treatment. Vital medications such as insulin are a necessary part of the many of our members' treatment for themselves and for their children as part of their health maintenance plans. The cost of insulin has skyrocketed in recent years with very little in the way of justification from pharmaceutical companies, other than for profits, and for their quarterly earnings statements.

So many families and elderly are still hurting financially from the past 2 years of health and economic hardships, we all can use a helping hand during these trying times. We hope that the MGA will also work on other constructive ways of supporting Maryland's poor, working families and elderly populations moving forward. This one is many steps needed to support our members' families. That extra money can make a positive impact on many Maryland's families, their ability to build some savings, or to afford necessities like necessary, life -saving medications, supplies and medical care.

The future of Maryland's health lies with its folks having the ability to afford necessary, life-saving medications such as insulin. Families need your ongoing support now, and into the future. Please support them now when they need it the most.

Please support Senate Bill 353 and return a favorable report. Thank you for your time, and for considering our testimony today.

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