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STATE OF MARYLAND
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
CONSUMER PROTECTION DIVISION

March 11, 2022

To: The Honorable Shane E. Pendergrass
Chair, Health and Government Operations Committee

From: The Office of the Attorney General's Health Education and Advocacy Unit

Re: House Bill 1397 (Health Insurance - Prescription Insulin Drugs - Limits on Copayment and Coinsurance (Insulin Cost Reduction Act): Support

The Office of the Attorney General's Health Education and Advocacy Unit (HEAU) supports House Bill 1397's goal of a \$30 cap on monthly out-of-pocket costs for consumers of prescription insulin drugs. We understand that the intent of the Insulin Cost Reduction Act is to cap at \$30 the total amount a consumer would pay for copays and coinsurance combined, to obtain a 30-day supply of the prescription insulin drugs prescribed to treat their diabetes regardless of the amount or types of insulin needed to fill the consumer's prescription. At least 15 other states have enacted similar laws that generally set a cost limit for insulin copays. <https://diatribechange.org/news/insulin-copay-caps-path-affordability>

We note for the record that the bill as enacted and Md. Code Ann., Ins. § 15-847.1 would need to harmonize current and new protections for consumers of diabetes prescription drugs including prescription insulin drugs.

We ask the committee to give the bill a favorable report.

cc: Delegate Pena-Melnyk, Sponsor