

HB0340_RichardKaplowitz_FAV
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Richard Keith Kaplowitz
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TESTIMONY ON HB#/0340 - FAVORABLE

**Prescription Drug Affordability Board - Authority for Upper Payment Limits and Funding
(The Lowering Prescription Drug Costs For All Marylanders Now Act)**

TO: Chair Pena-Melnyk, Vice Chair Cullison, and members of the Health and Government Operations Committee

FROM: Richard Keith Kaplowitz

My name is Richard K. Kaplowitz. I am a resident of District 3. I am submitting this testimony in support of HB#0340, Prescription Drug Affordability Board - Authority for Upper Payment Limits and Funding (The Lowering Prescription Drug Costs For All Marylanders Now Act)

My wife and I are ages 75 and 71 respectively. My wife has been battling some health issues and was recently prescribed a new drug that could help alleviate part of those issues. The price for a monthly supply of that drug was hundreds of dollars above what her insurance would pay for a possible life altering treatment. We are both on fixed income and my wife had to decline to fill her prescription.

We live in a senior adult retirement community and, in conversations with my neighbors, find the lack of affordability of drugs is a consistent challenge for many of us. There are more seniors in Frederick County than school age children and we are a fast growing component of the population.

If we are to have better outcomes medically and a better quality of life we must create some controls on the prices of drugs we are prescribed. This bill is an attempt to rein in the unconscionable prices of many of the medications seniors are now being prescribed.

I respectfully urge this committee to return a favorable report on HB#0340.