

Access to Affordable Insulin Act



Insulin, a lifesaving and sustaining medication for people with diabetes, has seen an incredible 600% increase in price over the last twenty years. For this 100-year-old medication, cost has driven many states, including Illinois, to enact an insulin co-pay cap. In 2021, the co-pay cap went into effect and the total amount of cost-sharing that an enrollee in a state-regulated health plan or a public employee is required to pay for insulin does not exceed \$100 for a 30-day supply regardless of the quantity or type of insulin needed to fill that person's prescription. More needs to be done to align Illinois with other states' co-pay caps and Medicare Part D changes, and to make insulin more affordable and accessible for the uninsured and underinsured.

The Access to Affordable Insulin Act takes the next step to address the insulin affordability crisis for Illinoisans living with diabetes who rely on insulin to survive.

1 in 4
people with diabetes
report rationing insulin due to
cost alone

Insulin can cost upwards of
\$300 per vial
which lasts about a week.

Insulin costs have increased
600%
since 2012

WHAT'S IN THE BILL

- 1. Lower Insulin Co-Pay Cap:** Seeks to reduce the \$100 co-pay cap to \$35 to align with the Medicare Part D Senior Savings Model and other state and federal efforts to make insulin more affordable.
- 2. Emergency Insulin Program:** Once a year, eligible Illinoisans would be able to obtain a 30-day supply of insulin for \$35. To qualify, the individual would need to have less than a seven-day supply of insulin available, currently be required to pay more than \$35 out of pocket each month for insulin, and must be a resident of Illinois.

WHY IT'S IMPORTANT

- In the US, 1 in 4 people with diabetes report rationing their insulin due to cost alone. Under the provisions of this bill, Illinoisans who need insulin and can't afford it will no longer face prohibitively expensive costs when filling their prescriptions.
- Individuals with high deductible health plans struggle to afford the cost of insulin, as do the uninsured. Both the underinsured and uninsured will benefit from this bill.

Effective Date: Immediate upon becoming law