

Testimony
House Bill 1288 - Department of Human Services
House Human Services Committee
Representative Robin Weisz, Chairman

January 20, 2021

Chairman Weisz and members of the Human Services Committee, I am Brendan Joyce, Administrator of Pharmacy Services for the Department of Human Services (Department). I appear today to provide testimony on House Bill 1288.

The Department currently manages the coverage of diabetic testing supplies by covering blood glucose test strips and very rarely continuous glucose monitors (CGM). The Department follows American Diabetes Association (ADA) guidelines for coverage of test strips. If the Department is required to open up coverage of continuous glucose monitors, we would do the same as we do for blood glucose test strips, which is to follow ADA guidelines. This would require an amendment to House Bill 1288 to no longer specify type 1 diabetes.

The Department currently has 1,683 recipients receiving blood glucose test strips. The current net cost per year is \$170,000 (total dollars) per year. Roughly 53.5% of the volume is Medicaid Expansion, so \$90,950 (\$81,855 federal / \$9,095 state). The remaining \$79,050 is at the traditional Medicaid match rate.

If all recipients moved to continuous glucose monitors and all were compliant with the monitoring and process, the increased costs (net of rebates received through the multi-state pool in which the Department participates) would be \$1,777,470 (total dollars) per 12 months. For the purposes of the fiscal note, we assumed only 40% of recipients would switch to continuous glucose monitors during the first fiscal year, and 60% of all recipients for the second fiscal year.

There are 104 recipients 18 years of age or less receiving blood glucose test strips, and only 16 of those testing 5 or more times per day. Also, relative net costs for the

Department is one continuous glucose monitors per year is equal in cost to 3 years and 2 months of high-volume blood glucose strip use.

This concludes my testimony, and I am happy to answer any questions you may have.