

March 7, 2021

Dear, Chairman and Committee members

My name is Katherine Walvatne and I would very much like to express my favor for this bill. I myself am I Type 1 Diabetic and can say with absolute certainty that CGMs are both life saving and life changing. I was diagnosed in 1999 at the age of five. After having the CGM myself it has both saved my life many times and helped me to understand my disease more than ever before.

Thinking too, if I would have had this growing up it would have helped me to learn and grow with the disease more than I did. I was a terrified child when it came to low blood sugars and led me to be comfortable with too high of blood sugars. Which, in turn, led to high A1Cs and some health issues.

If children had more reliable and affordable access to this device it can help not only save lives and teach that person how to control their disease at a young age, but would help continue into adulthood. Helping to deter future medical problems. Having this device can help with short-term and long-term problems and as a whole is a tremendous help to anyone with Diabetes.

I would also like to add that with CGMs, especially for children and young adults, that not only does it help with physical problems short and long-term but also with someone's mental health. As I said before, I was terrified as a child of my disease and if I would have had this growing up I would have a much healthier life both physically and mentally with this disease. No child would ever choose to have Diabetes. So, with the technology we have today, everyone, children and adults with Diabetes, should have access to this because of its many life saving benefits.