

I'm Dr. Eric L. Johnson, and I am providing written testimony today regarding SB 2140 specifically related to a price cap on insulin. I have been the Assistant Medical Director of the Diabetes Center at Altru Health System in Grand Forks, and I also have type 1 diabetes. My opinions are of my own, and do not reflect any organizations I am associated with.

For many years the cost of insulin has continued to rise, creating hardship for those who require it. Those with type 1 diabetes have no other treatment options, and I personally have witnessed bad outcomes, often including hospitalization, for those who skip insulin doses or "ration" insulin in the face of high costs. Even those with insurance can face an insulin cost issue with co-pays that have steadily risen over time. So called "generic" insulins, including insulin R and Insulin N are of lower quality and are not useful in insulin pump devices, which have become very common in the treatment of both type 1 and type 2 diabetes.

Other states including Maine, New Mexico, New York, Utah, Washington, West Virginia, Colorado and Illinois have successfully legislated price caps on insulin, typically in the range of \$25-\$35. I am asking at this time that you take on this issue and help thousands in North Dakota who require insulin for treatment of their diabetes and to stay safe in managing their diabetes.

Respectfully submitted,



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