

To Whom It May Concern,

My name is Erik, and I am a resident of North Dakota. I have lived with type 1 diabetes for over 28 years, and this disease is a constant battle. Insulin is, obviously, the strongest weapon of defense and is a life saving medication that I cannot go without, not even for one single day. There have been months that my insulin expenses have topped \$1,000, and that doesn't count the other costs associated with this disease. Insulin pump, insulin pump supplies, continuous glucose meters, test strips, etc. There were times when I was forced to basically stop eating and ration insulin because my wife and I couldn't afford to purchase another vile of insulin for \$300+ (insulin only costs \$2 to \$10 per vile to manufacture). My family and I should not be forced to suffer because of a drug company's greed and price gouging.

I am just one of thousands of diabetics in the state of North Dakota that have been affected by the extremely high cost of insulin. I also had a friend who was forced to ration her insulin because she couldn't afford it, and that decision, that she shouldn't have had to make, took her life. This shouldn't happen, not in this day and age. A common, life saving medicine that people can't afford? It doesn't make sense. Insulin was never created for big companies to make bigger profits, it was created to save lives. Please, help all of the North Dakotans that are struggling with diabetes, while at the same time struggling to keep food on their table. I respectfully urge you to pass bill HB 1114 and cap the monthly cost of insulin at \$25.

Thank You,

Erik Opdahl