

**Diabetes Advocacy Day at the Capitol**

Diabetes is a chronic disease for which there is no cure. Diabetes is on the rise—30.3 million Americans have diabetes and another 84 million have prediabetes and will develop the disease without significant lifestyle changes. The rates of those who experience the disabling complications associated with the disease also continue to rise. Diabetes is a leading cause of new cases of blindness in adults, amputation of the lower extremities, kidney failure, heart disease and stroke. To prevent diabetes and keep those who have the disease free from costly and disabling complications we must ensure that people have access to *adequate and affordable health care*.

The American Diabetes Association understands the difficult financial decisions Minnesota and other states are facing so it’s even more important than ever that you remind your legislators to think about the personal and financial burden of diabetes when considering policy and budget issues this year. These issues are of particular importance:

1. **S.F. 366/H.F. 289 – Diabetes Prescription Drugs Cost Reporting – Vote YES **

Senate Sponsors: Little; Abeler; Wiklund; Torres Ray; Carlson

House Sponsors: Mann; Halverson; Howard; Cantrell; Freiberg; Poston; Lee; Acomb; Bierman; Hassan; Bahner; Dehn; Masin; Loeffler; Moller

This bill requires companies to justify and explain price increases of insulin and other diabetes medications, ensuring price transparency in the supply chain and helping Minnesotans struggling to afford the skyrocketing price of insulin and other drugs.

1. **S.F. 365/H.F. 288- Continuation of Care- Vote YES **

Senate Sponsors: Little; Klein; Abeler; Jensen; Franzen

House Sponsors: Masin; Mann; Howard; Poston; Scott; Huot; Xiong, T.; Richardson; Sandell; Noor; Cantrell; Koznick; Loeffler

This bill prohibits insurance companies from removing coverage of a particular brand of insulin or equipment and supplies during a customer’s contract year, creating transparency and protecting people with diabetes from mid-year non-medical switching.

1. **H.F. 365/ S.F. 510- Driver License Requirements- Vote YES **

House Sponsors: Davnie; Halverson; Winkler; Koegel; Elkins; Morrison

Senate Sponsors: Torres Ray; Dibble; Carlson; Franzen

This bill repeals discriminatory driver’s license reporting requirements for people with diabetes mellitus.

If you have questions, please reach out to Christine Fallabel, Minnesota Director of State Government Affairs & Advocacy for The American Diabetes Association [cfallabel@diabetes.org](mailto:cfallabel@diabetes.org)