

Dear XXX:

My name is XXXX, I have/my child has XXXX disease, and we live in [CITY], [STATE]. My life depends on receiving XXXX, a treatment made by XXXX. This treatment costs approximately XXX per year and our family would never be able to afford it. Even the cost of co-pays would exceed what our family can spend or completely deplete all of our income. XXX provides a co-pay assistance program that helps us pay for the cost of the treatment's co-pays. With XXXX's financial help, our family is able to: [Fill in the blank, not worry about grocery costs, have housing, continue to care for our son, search for opportunities, etc.] Without XXXX's assistance our lives will dramatically change and I worry about [Fill in the blank].

As your constituent and someone who believes patients deserve affordable access to medications, I respectfully urge you to enact legislation that supports patients and prohibits insurance companies from enacting co-pay accumulator programs for their beneficiaries.

For individuals living with rare and chronic conditions, the high cost of treatment has a direct impact on patient access. The use of copay assistance programs from manufacturers and nonprofit organizations help patients afford the medications they need to manage their conditions. We need legislation to ensure patients' copay assistance counts towards their out-of-pocket costs, including deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums.

In a recent national survey of 1,000 registered voters conducted by Public Opinion Strategies, 46 percent of respondents said that if financial assistance did not count toward their out-of-pocket costs, they would not be able to access their medications and it would either force them to deplete all their savings or take on high-interest credit card debt.

Please think of our family and prohibit insurance companies from taking away this financial assistance.

Thank you,
Name:
Address: