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House of Representatives
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
HARRISBURG

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RULES

August 1, 2023

Katie Merritt
Director of Policy and Planning
Office of Insurance Commissioner
1326 Strawberry Square
Harrisburg, PA 17120

Dear Director Merritt:

I write today to urge you to add a \$35 insulin copay cap to Pennsylvania's essential health benefits (EHB) package.

Under the Affordable Care Act, individual and small group (50 or fewer employees) health insurance policies must cover the ten categories of EHBs. Each state can select a benchmark plan to describe what specific benefits must be included in each EHB category.

Pennsylvania is behind the times. We have not updated our benchmark plan since 2017. The Insurance Department's reevaluation of Pennsylvania's EHB package shows the department's commitment to ensuring consumers get the care they need, when they need it.

Insulin saves lives, but too many Pennsylvanians cannot afford it. That's why I introduced House Bill 534, which limits copays for insulin to \$35/month. But the legislative process takes time. And the Insurance Department, by updating Pennsylvania's EHB package, has an opportunity to expand insulin coverage in individual and small group policies.

Thus, I urge you to ensure that a \$35 insulin copay cap, as contemplated in my House Bill 534, is included in any update to Pennsylvania's EHB package.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeanne McNeill".

Jeanne McNeill
State Representative
133rd Legislative District