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May 2, 2024

The Honorable Maxwell Frost  
U.S. House of Representatives  
1224 Longworth House Office  
Building  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Doris Matsui  
U.S. House of Representatives  
2311 Rayburn House Office  
Building  
Washington, DC 20515

**RE: Support for H.R. 6965, the *Epinephrine's Pharma Inflated Price Ends Now Act***

Dear Representatives Frost and Matsui:

I write on behalf of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology (AAAAI) to thank you for introducing **H.R. 6965, the *Support for Epinephrine's Pharma Inflated Price Ends Now Act***. The AAAAI supports this legislation that would cap the price of epinephrine auto-injectors for individuals covered by private insurance.

Established in 1943, the AAAAI is a professional organization with more than 7,000 members in the United States, Canada and 72 other countries. This membership includes board certified allergist/immunologists, other medical specialists, allied health, and related healthcare professionals – all with a special interest in the research and treatment of patients with allergic and immunological diseases.

Anaphylaxis can result from insect stings, food items, and medications with 500-1,000 fatalities annually and many more hospitalizations and emergency department visits. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) reports that the prevalence of food allergies in children increased by 50 percent between 1997 and 2011. Between 1997 and 2008, the prevalence of peanut or tree nut allergy appears to have more than tripled in U.S. children. About 40 percent of children with food allergies have experienced a severe reaction, such as anaphylaxis. Each year, more than 200,000 Americans require emergency medical care for allergic reactions to food: equivalent to one trip to the emergency room every three minutes.

(More)

Importantly, H.R. 6965 would cap the cost of epinephrine auto-injectors in the private insurance market – making these lifesaving treatments more accessible and affordable for patients that suffer from severe allergic reactions. We would be happy to participate in discussion with you about potential opportunities to extend similar protections for patients who do not have insurance as well.

On behalf of the patients we serve, thank you for your leadership in lowering costs for patients with severe or life threatening allergies. The AAAAI looks forward to working with you to advance this important legislation. Please contact Sheila Heitzig, JD, MNM, CAE, AAAAI Director of Practice and Policy, at (414) 272-6071 or sheitzig@aaaai.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Paul V. Williams MD". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the "MD" at the end being more distinct.

Paul Williams, MD FAAAAI  
President, American Academy of Allergy, Asthma & Immunology