



May 11, 2023

Dear Governor Jared Polis,

We are excited to share that SB23-195, Calculations of Contributions To Meet Cost Sharing, has officially passed the Colorado legislature and is on its way to your desk! We write to seek your support for and signature on this bill that will ensure that any payment made by or on behalf of a covered person are counted in the calculation of the covered person's contributions toward cost-sharing requirements. This critical legislation will save Coloradans money on their health care so they can afford life-saving medications. Not only did SB23-195 have strong bipartisan sponsorship in both chambers and nearly unanimous, bipartisan support from the legislature, it also has the support of 60 patient and provider nonprofit organizations across Colorado.

Many patients rely on third-party financial assistance to pay for their high-cost medications. Unfortunately, over the last few years, some insurance companies have stopped counting third-party financial assistance towards the patient's deductible and other out-of-pocket costs. These misleading policies make life-saving treatment unaffordable and inaccessible. The impact of this policy change by Insurers has been devastating and far-reaching. Research has proven that increases in out-of-pocket costs for medications results in higher prescription abandonment rates, putting patients at greater risk for negative health outcomes and our healthcare system at risk of higher overall treatment costs.

This issue is so pervasive and detrimental that similar legislation to protect patients in these scenarios has passed in 17 other states, with similar bipartisan support. We are eager for Colorado to join the growing list of states dedicated to ensuring patients can access the prescription medication they need without going into catastrophic debt. Additionally, data from other states that have implemented this legislation have found that this critical change will occur with no impact on consumer premiums. To achieve meaningful savings for Coloradans living with chronic conditions while keeping premiums low is a win for all involved.

Please sign SB23-195 to make Colorado the 18th state with this important patient protection allowing Coloradans to have access to the lifeline that copay assistance provides.

Sincerely,

Aimed Alliance
Alliance for Patient Access
ALS Association
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
American College of Rheumatology
American Diabetes Association
Arthritis Foundation



Association for Clinical Oncology
CancerCare
Centennial State Prosperity
Chronic Care Collaborative
Chronic Care Policy Alliance
Coalition of State Rheumatology Organizations
Colorado Cancer Coalition
Colorado Consumer Health Initiative
Colorado Gerontological Society
Colorado Health Network
Colorado Medical Society
Colorado Organizations and Individuals Responding to HIV AIDS (CORA)
Colorado Ovarian Cancer Alliance
Community Oncology Alliance (COA)
Cystic Fibrosis Research Institute
Denver Tech Insurance
Derma Care Access Network
Epilepsy Foundation of Colorado & Wyoming
EveryLife Foundation for Rare Diseases
Grand Valley Oncology
Headache and Migraine Policy Forum
Hemophilia Federation of America
HIV + Hepatitis Policy Institute
ICAN, International Cancer Advocacy Network
Immune Deficiency Foundation
Infusion Access Foundation
International Foundation for Autoimmune & Autoinflammatory Arthritis
Komen Foundation
Little Hercules Foundation
Lupus and Allied Diseases Association, Inc.
Lupus Colorado
Lupus Foundation of America
Meapta Inc, Policy Analysis
Movement Disorders Policy Coalition
Multiple Sclerosis Association of America
National Eczema Association
National Hemophilia Foundation
National Multiple Sclerosis Society
National Psoriasis Foundation
One Colorado
Parkinson Association of the Rockies
Positive Women's Network - Colorado



Positive Women's Network - USA
Rheumatology Nurses Society
Rocky Mountain MS Center
Rocky Mountain Oncology Society
Society of Dermatology Physician Assistants (SDPA)
Spondylitis Association of America
The AIDS Institute
The ALS Association Rocky Mountain Chapter
Vivent Health
Young Invincibles