

Lawrence S. Kuenning
Farmington
LD 697

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March 13, 2025

Testimony in Support of LD 697, An Act to Direct the Maine Prescription Drug Affordability Board to Assess Strategies to Reduce Prescription Drug Costs and to Take Steps to Implement Reference-based Pricing

Senator Bailey, Representative Mathieson and Members of the Joint Standing Committee on Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services:

I am Lawrence Kuenning from Farmington. I am asking you to help address high prescription drug costs in Maine.

I was recently prescribed a drug that is terribly expensive, Dupixent. I am retired and have Medicare coverage for insurance. With my Medicare Advantage plan, the copay for this drug is \$1,565 every four weeks or \$20,345 per year.

After I found out the cost of the drug, I decided not to fill it for the time being, as the copay for the one drug would use up more than two-thirds of my total income. The problem for me is that I can't get this drug without substantial financial aid for it. The appointment with the doctor who prescribed Dupixent was back in January. Two months later, I haven't yet found a way to afford this medication.

Please do what you can to address high drug prices in Maine.

Sincerely,
Lawrence S. Kuenning