



# Infusion Access Foundation

*A nonprofit advocacy community  
fighting for treatment for all patients*

Memorandum in Support of LD 1783  
3307 Northland Dr, Ste 160  
Austin, TX 78731

January 10, 2022

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

On behalf of the infusion patients we represent across the state, thank you for your service and commitment to the people of Maine, particularly during these challenging times. IAF is a nonprofit advocacy community and public charity dedicated to ensuring that patients have access to provider-administered therapies for any and all complex diseases. The organization was created to serve as a supportive and inclusive community for the patients receiving these life-changing medications.

When dealing with complex diseases, conventional drugs are not always effective, therefore biological products are sometimes the only hope for patients suffering from autoimmune diseases or other chronic illnesses. Naturally, these drugs can be extremely expensive. Copay assistance, also known as copay coupons or manufacturer assistance, allows patients to afford these life-saving medications by contributing to their deductibles. Copay accumulator programs that prevent copay assistance from counting towards a patient's out-of-pocket costs are simply reckless.

As I'm sure you know, it is more important than ever for patients to avoid preventable hospital visits, not only in terms of capacity but also in an effort to keep patients with pre-existing complex conditions away from potential exposure to other illnesses, like COVID-19. If a patient can no longer afford their medications and cost assistance is denied, we can only expect diseases to go unmanaged and greater hospitalizations for Mainers.

The passage of LD 1783 would allow Maine patients to remain on their life-saving medications by ensuring that all payments made by or for a patient count. On behalf of the patients battling chronic conditions for the rest of their lives, we sincerely request your support for LD 1783, which would protect Maine patients' access to care.

IAF hopes that the Health Coverage, Insurance and Financial Services Committee will support LD 1783 to reform the insurance practice of implementing copay accumulator policies to support Maine patients. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Kindyl Boyer  
Director of Advocacy, Infusion Access Foundation (IAF)

*Together for Treatment.*