

REVEREND  RAPHAEL
WARNOCK
U.S. SENATOR *for* GEORGIA

Affordable Insulin Now Act of 2023

Over 8.4 million Americans rely on insulin to live.¹ In the United States, insulin costs 10 times as much as anywhere else in the world, which explains why one in four Americans have reported rationing their insulin.² Costs to treat diabetes have continued to rise for many Georgians and Americans: insulin prices nearly doubled from 2012 to 2016, with the average price for a 40-day supply of insulin increasing from \$344 to \$666 during that span.³

Affordable Insulin Now Act of 2023:

Under the bipartisan *Affordable Insulin Now Act of 2023*, introduced by U.S. Senators Reverend Raphael Warnock (D-GA) and John Kennedy (R-LA), private group or individual plans would be required to cover one of each insulin dosage form (i.e. vial, pen) and insulin type (i.e. rapid-acting, short-acting, intermediate-acting, and long-acting) for no more than \$35 per month. Additionally, the legislation would require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to establish a program where qualifying entities can be reimbursed above the cost of \$35 for providing a monthly insulin dosage to uninsured individuals. Qualifying entities include health care providers or pharmacies that agree to charge no more than \$35 per month out-of-pocket for insulin for an uninsured individual. This bill will be fully paid for by an offset to be determined.

Highlights of Senator Warnock's Insulin Leadership:

- In February 2022, Senator Warnock, a long-time champion for affordable, quality health care, introduced the *Affordable Insulin Now Act*, which would cap the out-of-pocket cost of insulin at \$35 for insulin users on private insurance and Medicare plans.
- Senator Warnock successfully built critical support for the legislation, including garnering co-sponsorships from a majority of Senate Democrats as well as securing the bill's bipartisan passage through the House of Representatives. Additionally, the Senator secured major endorsements for his legislation from important health care and diabetes advocacy organizations, including the American Diabetes Association.
- Senator Warnock was able to successfully secure a provision of his legislation—a \$35 out-of-pocket cost cap for Medicare recipients—in the *Inflation Reduction Act*, which was signed into law in August 2022.
- Additionally, thanks to Senator Warnock's efforts to bring national attention to this issue, in July 2022 major insurance company UnitedHealthcare announced it would eliminate out-of-pocket costs on insulin for its insured patients, and in June 2022 insulin drug manufacturer Sanofi announced it was capping the cost of insulin at \$35 a month for all uninsured U.S. patients.
- As part of his continued effort to bring moral urgency to this issue, at this year's State of the Union address, Senator Reverend Warnock was joined by Atlanta resident and insulin user Lacy Mason (McGee). Lacy could not afford her insulin while in graduate school, often resorting to extreme measures to buy insulin.
- In mid-March, Senator Reverend Warnock launched a new effort urging insulin manufacturers Novo Nordisk, Sanofi, as well as insurers to cap the out-of-pocket cost of insulin at \$35 a month. As a result, both Novo Nordisk and Sanofi have capped the price of cost of their insulin products.
- Senator Reverend Warnock joined Senator Kennedy to introduce bipartisan legislation to cap insulin at \$35 for privately-insured and uninsured insulin users.

¹ <https://diabetes.org/newsroom/press-releases/2022/american-diabetes-association-announces-support-for-insulin-act-at-senate-press-conference>

² <https://diabetes.org/newsroom/press-releases/2022/american-diabetes-association-announces-support-for-insulin-act-at-senate-press-conference>

³ <https://healthcostinstitute.org/diabetes-and-insulin/price-of-insulin-prescription-doubled-between-2012-and-2016>

Timeline of Senator Warnock's Insulin Leadership

- February 17, 2022** Senator Warnock [introduces](#) the *Affordable Insulin Now Act* to cap out-of-pocket insulin costs for Medicare recipients and people on private insurance at \$35 a month.
- February 23, 2022** Senator Warnock [secures](#) the American Diabetes Association's endorsement for his legislation.
- March 28, 2022** Senator Warnock [calls](#) on House of Representatives to pass the *Affordable Insulin Now Act*
- April 1, 2022** At Senator Warnock's [urging](#), the House passes the *Affordable Insulin Now Act*
- April 11, 2022** Senator Warnock [secures](#) his \$35 cost cap legislation in the Shaheen-Collins insulin proposal
- May 6, 2022** Senator Warnock [pens](#) an op-ed in the Atlanta Journal Constitution outlining the importance of passing his *Affordable Insulin Now Act* in order to lower costs of insulin for Georgians
- June 6, 2022** Senator Warnock [pushes](#) Senate leadership to bring his insulin legislation to the floor ASAP
- July 1, 2022** In a nod to Senator Warnock's \$35 cost cap legislation, insulin manufacturer Sanofi [caps](#) insulin cost at \$35 for uninsured insulin users.
- July 15, 2022** Following Senator Warnock's efforts, UnitedHealthcare [announces](#) they will eliminate out-of-pocket insulin costs for its insured patients
- July 25, 2022** Senator Warnock [challenges](#) major insurers to reduce or eliminate out-of-pocket insulin costs.
- July 29, 2022** Senator Warnock [secures](#) inclusion of his \$35 cost cap legislation in the Inflation Reduction Act.
- August 7, 2022** The Senate [passes](#) the Inflation Reduction Act, including Senator Warnock's \$35 insulin cost cap for Medicare recipients.
- January 1, 2023** Thanks to Senator Warnock's months of leadership, the \$35 insulin cost cap for insulin recipients [takes](#) effect.
- February 8, 2023** Senator Warnock [brings](#) Atlanta insulin-user Lacy McGee as his State of the Union guest.
- March 1, 2023** In a nod to Senator Warnock's efforts, insulin manufacturer Eli Lilly [announces](#) \$35 cost cap.
- March 13, 2023** Senator Warnock [pressures](#) manufacturers, insurers to lower insulin costs to \$35 a month or less.
- March 14, 2023** Following Senator Warnock's calls, insulin manufacturer Novo Nordisk [slashes](#) insulin prices.
- March 16, 2023** Heeding Senator Warnock, insulin manufacturer Sanofi [caps](#) insulin costs at \$35 a month for privately-insured insulin users.
- March 23, 2023** Senator Warnock joins Senator Kennedy to introduce bipartisan legislation to cap insulin at \$35 for privately-insured and uninsured insulin users.
- April 19, 2023** Senate Majority Leader Schumer committed to including the Senator insulin cap in any potential health care legislative package that comes to fruition. Additionally, Leader Schumer committed to helping speed up the Congressional Budget Office's (CBO) scoring process on the legislation, a key step in bringing this bill to the Senate floor.

May 31, 2023

Senators Britt (R-AL) and Fetterman (D-PA) cosponsor the Senator's insulin legislation.

June 13, 2023

Senators Tuberville (R-AL) and Peters (D-MI) cosponsor the Senator's insulin legislation.

July 13, 2023

Senator Warnock joined Senator Warren in releasing an investigative report which found that uninsured Americans still face significant challenges to access affordable, generic insulin.

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