

T1International #insulin4all

Alec Smith Emergency Insulin Bill Amicus Brief Toolkit

On November 5, T1International, Minnesota #insulin4all, several residents whose lives have been affected by the high price of insulin, the National Health Law Program, and Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid filed an amicus brief in response to Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America (*PhRMA*) lawsuit against Minnesota's Alec Smith Emergency Insulin Bill. The lawsuit, filed on June 30, challenged Minnesota's [new law](#), which was named for Alec Smith, who [died at age 26](#) from rationing insulin.

The law enables people with diabetes in Minnesota to access an emergency 30-day supply of insulin for a \$35 copay. It also includes a program to ensure more sustainable affordability for people with diabetes who are uninsured or underinsured, including those with high copays.

The passage of Alec's Bill in April 2020 was a significant win for patients in Minnesota, where years of advocacy by #insulin4all advocates led to the bill's passage.

Hearings for the lawsuit (*PhRMA v. Stuart Williams, et al*) will begin in December.

We have seen too many times how pharmaceutical companies put profit over the lives of patients. We urge #insulin4all advocates to spread the word about Alec's Bill and PhRMA's lawsuit against it across all social media channels, utilizing posts shared in this toolkit, and graphics from [our content folder](#).

Social Media

Share these tweets along with [graphics from our content folder](#)!

Feel free to adapt, but please use the hashtags #insulin4all and #ProtectAlecsBill so we can amplify!

Tweets

- In June, PhRMA filed a lawsuit to overturn Alec's Bill in Minnesota. On November 5, @t1international, @MNinsulin4all, @NHeLP_org, and @legal_aid_MN filed an amicus brief, urging the courts to #ProtectAlecsBill. #insulin4all
- The hard-won passage of Alec's Bill in Minnesota meant relief for patients. But now PhRMA is suing to overturn the legislation. On November 5, @t1international, @MNinsulin4all, @NHeLP_org, and @legal_aid_MN filed an amicus brief, urging the courts to #ProtectAlecsBill. #insulin4all
- Join @t1international, @MNinsulin4all, @NHeLP_org, and @legal_aid_MN as we urge the courts to #ProtectAlecsBill from PhRMA's lawsuit.

Facebook Posts

- The tireless advocacy of Minnesota #insulin4all advocates led to the passage of Alec's Bill in April, a bill that would help patients with diabetes in Minnesota who are struggling with the cost of insulin. But PhRMA filed a lawsuit to overturn the bill. On November 5, T1International, Minnesota #insulin4all, several patients, and loved ones of people with diabetes, the National Health Law Program, and Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid filed an amicus brief to urge the courts to #ProtectAlecsBill.
- In June, PhRMA filed a lawsuit to overturn Alec's Bill in Minnesota. On November 5, T1International, Minnesota #insulin4all, several patients and loved ones of people with diabetes, the National Health Law Program, and Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid filed an amicus brief to urge the courts to #ProtectAlecsBill.

Instagram Posts

- Patient advocacy had a big win in April with the passing of Alec's Bill in Minnesota - but now PhRMA has filed a lawsuit to overturn the bill. Today, T1International, Minnesota #insulin4all, several patients, the National Health Law Program, and Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid filed an amicus brief to urge the courts to #ProtectAlecsBill.
- In the midst of a national health crisis, legislation like Alec's Bill in Minnesota helps ease the burden on patients who are already struggling. On November 5, T1International, Minnesota #insulin4all, several patients, the National Health Law Program, and Mid-Minnesota Legal Aid filed an amicus brief to urge the courts to #ProtectAlecsBill from a lawsuit filed by PhRMA to overturn the law.

Additional Insulin Crisis Facts

Here are some additional facts about the insulin price crisis that you can use in your social media posts and advocacy.

- Insulin was first used to treat a person with diabetes in 1922. The discoverers sold the patent for \$1 each so it could [be accessible](#) for all.
- There are over [7 million](#) Americans that rely on injected insulin to stay alive and healthy.
- Today, Eli Lilly, Novo Nordisk and Sanofi – the 'big three' insulin producers – dominate [more than 90%](#) of the world insulin market by value.
- Since the 1990s, the cost of insulin has increased [over 1,200%](#), yet the cost of production for a vial of most analog insulin formulas is [between \\$3.69 and \\$6.16](#).
- Between 2001 and 2015 the price of Humalog insulin [increased 585%](#). Spending by patients with type 1 diabetes on insulin nearly doubled from 2012 to 2016 alone, increasing from [\\$2900 to \\$5700](#).
- [One of every four](#) patients with type 1 has had to ration insulin due to cost. Among young adults, from ages of 18 to 25, studies have shown that [43% have rationed](#).
- Many patients with type 1 diabetes have [died](#) in the United States due to rationing insulin.