Dear [Representative/Congressperson/Senator],

My name is [Your Name] and I live and vote in [Your City, State]. [I/My child/My family member] has type 1 diabetes, a life-long, non-preventable autoimmune disease. I would like to talk to you about the insulin pricing crisis, and to request that you to make the issue part of your legislative priorities.

Insulin is as necessary to a diabetic as oxygen, yet people with diabetes around the country are suffering from lack of access to insulin. Here are a few facts on this issue to put it in perspective:

* Over [6 million Americans](https://www.cdc.gov/diabetes/data/statistics-report/index.html) are insulin dependent in the US.
* Prices of insulin have [been rising](http://uk.businessinsider.com/rising-insulin-prices-track-competitors-closely-2016-9?r=US&IR=T) at an alarming rate for over a **decade**, with insulin manufacturers raising their prices in lock step with each other.
* Insulin prices have increased [over 1000%](http://www.nbcnews.com/business/consumer/desperate-families-driven-black-market-insulin-n730026) in the last 20 years, and they continue to rise.
* Even with insurance, people are paying an average of at least [$210 per month](https://www.t1international.com/blog/2017/02/15/america-1-diabetes-costs/) for insulin alone and up to 50% of their annual income on diabetes costs.
* These prices are so high that people are being forced to resort to [drastic](https://www.t1international.com/blog/2017/04/28/uninsured-diabetes-usa/) measures just to [stay alive](https://www.t1international.com/blog/2017/12/04/pleas-usa/).
* Many people with diabetes are rationing their insulin, and an increasing number of people [have died](http://www.truth-out.org/opinion/item/43397-i-had-to-bury-my-26-year-old-son-because-he-couldn-t-afford-insulin) because they could not afford it.

Across the country, individuals and groups have united to [speak up](https://www.t1international.com/usainsulin4allaction/) against price-gouging and the insulin pricing crisis. The #insulin4all campaign has been advocating on social media, [meeting](https://www.t1international.com/blog/2018/02/17/advocates-meet-insulin4all-new-york-city/) to plan action, and leading in-person [demonstrations](https://www.t1international.com/blog/2017/09/13/taking-stand-eli-lilly-headquarters/).

Current elected officials and candidates need to be speaking on access to insulin and high insulin prices. Those of us who have been fighting for affordable insulin at the state, national, and global levels encourage all officials to push for full transparency and accountability of all parties involved in the pricing of insulin.

We request your leadership to pursue legislative action to address this crisis and bring price transparency to insulin. To start, we would like to see every state pass legislation similar to [Nevada’s Senate Bill](https://www.diabetesdaily.com/blog/nevada-passes-insulin-price-transparency-law-444080/) 539 passed in June 2017. This bill requires pharmaceutical manufacturers and pharmacy benefit managers disclose the costs of insulin, justifications for these costs, and any factors leading to price increases.

If you are not already supporting #insulin4all, we want you to [join the conversation](https://twitter.com/hashtag/insulin4all) and to educate you about the situation. Here is a [great resource](https://www.t1international.com/media/assets/file/T1International_USA_insulin4all_sheet.pdf) that highlights key issues and progress so far. Please let me know if you are able to meet to discuss the current issues around insulin pricing and possible actions to stop this crisis. You can reach me at [phone] or [email].

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

[Your name]