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**CONNECTICUT GENERAL ASSEMBLY PASSES LEGISLATION TO END
CO-PAY ACCUMULATOR PROGRAMS IN CONNECTICUT**

[SB 1003](#) will prohibit use of co-pay accumulator programs, which cause financial trouble for residents living with chronic illnesses; Bill now on way to Governor Lamont

(Hartford, Conn., May 18, 2021) Advocates representing thousands of patients from across Connecticut today praised members of the state House of Representatives for passing legislation that will prohibit the use of co-pay accumulator programs (107 Yea, 35 Nay, 9 Absent) . This follows passage in the Senate in late April.

[SB 1003](#) is critical to any patient using prescription drug discount programs to defray the out-of-pocket costs passed on to them by insurance companies.

Drug manufacturers have long offered discount programs to help patients. Until recently, insurers applied the total cost of the prescription—what the discount covered and what the patient paid out of pocket to the patient’s insurance deductible.

However, with co-pay accumulator programs, **only** the amount that the patient pays directly out of pocket would count towards their deductible—not what the manufacturer program puts toward the cost of the medication. This results in the patient paying more out of pocket to reach their deductible and the insurer being paid twice.

“Despite having insurance, co-pay assistance programs often make the difference in the ability for patients to afford medications critical to their health,” said Richard Pezzillo, Executive Director of the New England Hemophilia Association and Chair of Patients for Prescription

Access. “We are thrilled that the Connecticut General Assembly sees the value in keeping out of pocket costs low for Connecticut residents by ending the use of co-pay accumulator programs in the state.”

The bill now heads to Governor Ned Lamont for his consideration.

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